Hafa Adai!

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**OPINION METER**

**This week's poll:**
Do you support the idea of hosting some of the Japan tsunami and earthquake victims here in the CNMI?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

**Nuclear Crisis**
Smoke billowed from a building at Japan's crippled nuclear power plant Friday.

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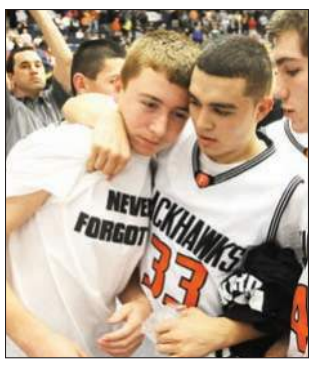

**Hoops Hero**
Classmates, coaches and former opponents were among the mourners who filled a southwest Michigan church.

Youngstyle...Page 18

**Adios**
"American Idol" viewers are saying adios to Karen Rodriguez.

Life & Style...Page 21

# Help pours in for Japan

» Children, adults, corporate citizens raise money to help those affected by quake, tsunami

Parents let their children make the actual donations to the CNMI-Japan quake and tsunami relief fund drive at the Garapan Street Market on Thursday night, almost a week after a 9.0-magnitude earthquake and tsunami devastated northeast Japan and resulted in damages to nuclear power plants. Across the CNMI, corporate citizens, government and private sector employees, organizations, and even children are raising funds to help Japan, which continues to be the CNMI's main tourism market. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Melanie Choe, 10, has been saving up coins and dollar bills since late last year for her school needs but on a rainy Thursday night, she brought her tiny pink piggy bank to the Garapan Street Market and donated all her savings to a worthy cause: to help those affected by a 9.0-magnitude quake and tsunami in Japan.

See HELP on Page 4

## Xiao guilty of 'ice' trafficking

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A Superior Court jury yesterday found Jing Xin Xiao guilty of trafficking of controlled substance, an offense that carries a mandatory minimum of 25 years imprisonment.

After deliberating for close to two hours in two days, the six jurors rendered a guilty verdict on Xiao, a Chi-

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FERDIE DE LA TORRE
Jing Xin Xiao emerges from the courtroom during a recess of his trial on Thursday in Superior Court. The jury rendered yesterday a guilty verdict to Xiao for trafficking of a controlled substance.

## DPL to pursue Pagan resettlement after completing Rota, Tinian homesteads

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands will be pursuing its Pagan resettlement plan once the Rota and Tinian homestead projects are completed in four to five months, DPL secretary Oscar M. Babauta said yesterday.

Babauta said DPL estimates 50 adults and children expressing plans to resettle to the volcanic island of Pagan, years after residents were told to leave the remote Northern Islands because of volcanic eruption.

The Pagan resettlement was discussed at a meeting between DPL and the members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation and representatives from the office of Northern Islands Mayor Tobias Aldan on Wednesday.

"We have been receiving names of applicants who want to resettle in Pagan

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**Public hearing on political status bill this Monday. PAGE 2**
**BOE appeals for no delay in monthly allotment. PAGE 3**

# Local

# Public hearing on political status bill this Monday

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations will hold a public hearing on a political status bill on Monday, a month after the original hearing was rescheduled because only three showed up.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), author of House Bill 17-7, is hoping that this time around, there will be more participation from the public.

His HB 17-7 seeks to create a Second Marianas Political Status Commission, which will reexamine whether the people still desire continuing the islands' political relationship with the United States pursuant to the terms of the original Covenant agreement.

It also seeks to determine whether a continuation of the U.S.-CNMI political relationship is in the best interest of the people, "or whether some other political status would better enable them to fulfill their aspirations of full and meaningful self-government."

Among other things, the proposed commission is tasked with making studies and recommendations regarding a political and economic status that is in the best interest of the CNMI people, and to produce draft treaties, agreements and laws reflecting any such status.

The March 21 public hearing will start at 6pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center in Susupe.

Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan), JGO Committee chair, requested several individuals to testify at the public hearing and provide written comments on HB 17-7.

The invited individuals include participants to the establishment of the Covenant including Edward DLG. Pangelinan, Vicente N. Santos, Vicente T. Camacho, Manuel A. Sablan, Pedro A. Tenorio, Benjamin T. Manglona, Joaquin I. Pangelinan, Herman Q. Guerrero, and Oscar Rasa.

The list also includes the four mayors, the chairmen of the municipal councils, the resident executive for indigenous affairs, executive assistant for Carolinian affairs, Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, attorney general, and Saipan Chamber of Commerce president.

# Federal court postpones trial of lawsuit by plane crash survivor

## » Survivor cites lawyer's busy schedule, departure of expert

The federal court yesterday delayed for five months the jury trial of a lawsuit filed by a plane crash survivor who cited the busy schedule of her lawyer and the departure from the CNMI of her medical expert.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge John A. Houston said pursuant to the "stipulation by the parties and for good cause having shown" the jury trial of Yoko Kamiyama's lawsuit, currently set for April 25, 2011, is continued to Sept. 19, 2011.

Houston set the pre-trial conference for Sept. 12, 2011.

Kamiyama and defendants Brent J. Hinkemeyer, Taga Air Charter Services Inc., Tinian Dynasty Hotel Inc., Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments Ltd., filed the stipulation through their respective counsels Bruce Berline and G. Anthony Long.

Under the stipulation, the parties agreed to continue the trial date.

Berline said Kamiyama requires a continuance of the trial because her medical expert, Dr. Sharish Balanchandra, suddenly left the island due to the CNMI government's failure to renew his employment contract with the Commonwealth Health Center.

Berline said Dr. Balachandra is relocating to the U.S. mainland and will be in New York in July 2011.

The parties also noted that Berline has a multiple-defendant criminal jury trial in federal court scheduled to begin on May 9, 2011.

Berline has also two criminal jury trials in Superior Court in July and August 2011.

Kamiyama, a Japanese national, was among the seven passengers on a Piper Cherokee aircraft that were injured when the plane crashed on a farm in Upper Dandan while en route to Tinian on Aug. 11, 2006.

The plane crashed into a farm, bursting into flames and destroying the plane. Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino reportedly leased the plane at the time.

Kamiyama suffered serious injuries. She sued for negligence and other claims pilot Hinkemeyer and co-defendants. She demanded over $100,000 in damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

In 2010, the federal court dismissed the lawsuits filed against the same defendants by two other passengers after Tinian Dynasty settled their cases. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

**DC MEETINGS** CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, CNMI Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), congressional staffer Brian Modeste, Allen Stayman, and Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan in Washington, D.C. on Monday. The senators explain the year-long effort to gather public opinion that became the basis for their recommendations to Congress on a long-term immigration status for nonresident workers in the CNMI.

# Motion to set aside conviction filed by Filipino who blames lawyer placed under advisement

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja has placed under advisement a motion to set aside his conviction filed by a Filipino ex-convict who has been married to a female resident for more than 20 years and is now facing a removal case in Immigration Court.

Naraja ordered attorney Reynaldo Yana, counsel for Crizaldo M. Valdez, and assistant attorney general Benjamin Petersburg, to submit a proposed ruling favorable to the position taken.

The proposed ruling, the judge said, shall be premised on applicable facts and conclusion of laws, and analyzed accordingly.

He said the lawyers should provide copies of case-laws cited.

Naraja gave the lawyers until April 25, 2011 to submit the documents.

The court on June 4, 2002 sentenced Valdez to six months after he signed a plea agreement with the government and pleaded guilty to attempted rape.

A few months ago, the Department of Homeland Security filed a removal case against Valdez, saying he should be removed from the CNMI due to his criminal conviction of attempted rape. The removal case is still pending in Immigration Court.

Valdez then filed motions to withdraw his guilty plea and to set aside his conviction.

In his declaration filed to support his motions, Valdez said he and his wife, Barbara Fujihira Ada, had consulted then assistant public defender Jeffrey Moots on a proposed plea agreement that would dispose of his criminal case.

Valdez said while Moots explained everything that was in the proposed plea agreement, the lawyer never told him about the effect the plea agreement will have on his right to continue living with his wife and child in the CNMI.

He said the lawyer never told him and his wife that, by signing the plea agreement, he could be deported from the CNMI not only by the CNMI government but also by the federal government.

Valdez said relying Moots' explanation, his wife persuaded him to accept the terms of the agreement because a trial would be difficult for her hypertension.

"My family suffered tremendously when I was incarcerated because I was the only breadwinner in the family," he said.

Attorney Yana, counsel for Valdez, argued that it is not only legally right to set aside the conviction and allow a withdrawal of the guilty plea; it is also humanitarian.

In the government's opposition to the motions, assistant attorney general Petersburg said allowing Valdez to back out of an agreement entered nearly nine years ago would prejudice the Commonwealth not only in this case, but in the many other cases where an alien defendant, long ago convicted of a crime, now faces possible deportation as well and might seek to withdraw a guilty plea. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

# iConnect mounts Japan relief drive

iConnect is joining worldwide efforts to raise much needed funds to help the victims of the devastating earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan on March 11.

iConnect today launched the "Today, We are all Japanese" campaign which is open to all iConnect and Buddy post and prepaid subscribers. iConnect and Buddy subscribers can donate $5 by texting the word JAPAN and their name to 5276 (JAPN) on their iConnect and Buddy phones. Each donation will automatically be billed to iConnect or Buddy postpaid accounts or deducted from prepaid accounts. iConnect will donate all proceeds of this fund drive directly to the Japan Red Cross.

"The recent Japan disaster has not just affected our neighbors in the Pacific, but it also touches us here on Guam since we also have a large Japanese community who have loved ones back in their home country. This is the time when we need to pool our resources to return the favor to our Japanese neighbors who had generously helped us during past calamities," said iConnect's business development manager Matt Giger.

Contact 888-8888 on Guam and Saipan to know more about how contributions can be made to iConnect's "Today, We are all Japanese" campaign. ***(iConnect)***

# IP&E, IT&E announce Japan tsunami relief donation

Mariana Acquisition Corporation, IP&E Saipan, and IT&E yesterday announced their Japan tsunami relief donation program, "A Passion for Giving."

Shell Stations will donate five cents for each gallon of fuel purchased at any Shell Station to the American Red Cross Japan Disaster Relief Fund through March 31, 2011.

"We hope to make a difference for our neighbours suffering the aftermath of the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan," said IP&E executive vice president Eloy Lizama.

IT&E customers can make a donation by texting to this short code: 932273 (WECARE). Fifty cents will be charged to your post paid account or prepaid load and will be donated to the American Red Cross Japan Disaster Relief Fund. IT&E will also match your 50 cent text contribution, up to $10,000.00.

"With over 80,000 subscribers on Guam and the CNMI, as little as 50 cents will go a long way toward the relief efforts," said Joe Camacho, chief operating officer, IT&E."

For more information, contact Jeff Boyer, CNMI Area Manager, IP&E at (670) 323-5009 or email J.Boyer@ipehq.com. ***(PR)***

# Bank of Hawaii participates in Japan relief effort for

**HAGATNA, Guam**—Bank of Hawaii is pleased to join in community efforts to support the Japan earthquake and tsunami relief efforts.

All Bank of Hawaii branches in Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, Saipan, and Palau will accept donations. Donations of cash and checks may be dropped off during business hours at any Bank of Hawaii branch. Checks should be made payable to "American Red Cross".

Bank of Hawaii chairman and CEO Peter Ho said, "Bank of Hawaii would like to express its deepest sympathy to all of the earthquake and tsunami victims. We are pleased to be a part of this relief effort to assist people in Japan. We encourage the people of the Pacific Islands to come into any Bank of Hawaii branch and make a contribution to help Japan recover from this devastation."

Additionally, Bank of Hawaii Foundation will donate $100,000 to Japan relief efforts. ***(BoH)***

# BOE appeals for no delay in monthly allotment

## » Says govt owes PSS $12.7M under MOE

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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The Board of Education and the Public School System appealed to the executive branch not to further delay its monthly allotment or it will be forced to close public schools.

BOE chair Marylou Ada and Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan also disclosed that as of this month, the central government owed PSS $12.7 million under the maintenance of effort.

In a letter to acting governor Eloy S. Inos, education officials said—in consideration of the critical cash flow problem of the government—that PSS has accommodated the administration's requests to use federal funding that it reserved for fiscal year 2012 to pay for expenditures in this current fiscal year.

"But as we emphasized at our meetings, the door to available federal funding is closing. PSS cannot sustain any further delay in the transfer of its monthly allotments from the Commonwealth, if we are to continue to operate our schools throughout the school year. Otherwise, the board will have no choice but the option of last resort of closing our schools as we cannot ask teachers to work without pay," Ada and Sablan told Inos in a letter concurred by the board during Wednesday's special meeting.

They asked assurance that PSS will receive on time its bi-weekly payroll for the remainder of FY 2011. They said if there is a delay on the transfer of funds for payroll, the closing down of schools becomes even more possible.

Based on the allotment to date, the Department of Finance owes PSS over $9.5 million for the first six months of FY 2011.

PSS estimates that the outstanding fund transfer from DOF to PSS after the maintenance of effort adjustment is about $3.2 million.

"We cannot emphasize enough the importance of completing the MOE adjustment as that is necessary documentation that must be submitted to the USDOE," Ada and Sablan added.

It was disclosed that based on projected revenue of $120 million for FY 2012, PSS should be allocated a minimum of $28.5 million as required by MOE requirement.

However, it came to light that PSS still has $12.7 million of un-remitted funds from the monthly allotment for FY 2010 and FY 2011.

PSS submitted a $36-million budget for FY 2012, but the Office of Management and Budget approved only $28 million.

PSS finance director Richard Waldo revealed last Wednesday that the administration, however, has assured PSS of reimbursing $8 million for next fiscal year.

### 'Actual transfer'

*Saipan Tribune* learned that pursuant to the budget law, PSS is allocated $31.3 million (including the BOE budget) for FY 2011. Of this amount, the required MOE share for six months is $15.6 million.

Records from the system showed that actual transfers from CNMI treasury—from October 2010 to March 2011—is only $6.1 million, or short by $9.5 million.

In addition, PSS recorded pending receivables from the government as of September 2010 is $3.1 million.

The following are the actual monthly transfer to PSS: October 2010, $258,828; November, $2.1 million; December, $1.3 million; January 2011, $1.2 million; February, $1.1 million.

# Ex-gas station staff gets 28 days in jail for stealing from customers

A former employee of a gasoline station accused of forging and misusing credit cards belonging to some customers, entered a guilty plea Thursday and was sentenced to 28 days in jail.

Pricilla W. Rogolofoi, 36, signed a plea agreement with the government. She pleaded guilty to theft.

Superior Court Associate Judge Perry B. Inos sentenced Rogolofoi to one year in prison, all suspended except 28 days.

Inos gave the defendant credit for the time she already served.

It means that Rogolofoi is expected to be released from the Department of Corrections on March 24 since she was arrested Feb. 24.

Inos placed the defendant on probation for three years and ordered her to pay a $100 fine, court costs and probation fees.

Rogolofoi was required to perform 100 hours of community work service and write a letter of apology to Shell Dandan, and some of its customers whose accounts she tried to steal from between October 2011 and February 2011.

The judge ordered the defendant to restitution that includes accounting costs.

Inos said the sentence is very light, but that because of the defendant's immediate cooperation with the investigators and to the prosecution, he accepted the plea agreement.

Before she was sentenced, Rogolofoi, who appeared with her counsel, assistant public defender Richard Miller, told the court she is remorseful for what she did.

The Office of the Attorney General charged the defendant with one count of theft, three counts of forgery, and two counts of misuse of credit card.

The defendant and counsel signed a plea agreement with chief prosecutor Michael Ernest.

For pleading guilty to theft, the government agreed to dismiss the remaining charges.

The plea agreement stated that on or about October 2010 to January 2011 on Saipan, the defendant did unlawfully take "at least $250 but less than $20,000" from the victims by swiping their credit cards or fleet cards.

The victims are Shell Gas Station Airport Road Dandan, Ruth Reyes, Bong An, Quality Distributor, Yaong Corp., Paupau Tours, and the Department of Public Safety. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***


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| Hotcakes with Sausage | **$2.99** |

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Special thanks to Herman's Modern Bakery & Tan Marikita's Cafe

# Task ahead: Shaving some $30M from budget submissions

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the Fitial administration has been able to reduce government agencies' original budget submissions totaling $201 million to $150 million as of Friday, but the task ahead is to further reduce it to less than $120 million which is the estimated projected revenue for fiscal year 2012.

The administration has less than two weeks or until April 1 to finalize its budget submission to the Legislature.

Inos, who oversees government finances, said the budget is still "a moving target."

"The goal is to shave another $30 million or so. It's a work in progress," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

But the Japan quake and tsunami's impact on the CNMI economy is expected to further reduce the FY 2012's projected revenue of $120 million, which is already down from the FY 2011's $132 million budget.

House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) said this early, the administration should identify the government programs or agencies whose appropriations need to be zeroed or drastically reduced so that the affected agencies and personnel will have ample time to prepare.

Benavente said the government cannot sacrifice the delivery of health and safety services to the public by continuing to fund all the existing programs and agencies, some of which can be done away with during these tough economic times.

# PH consul general urges citizens to remain calm

Amid the nuclear crisis fears in Japan, Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig urged the Filipino community on Saipan to remain calm and follow whatever advisory local and federal authorities will issue should a situation arise.

"Don't panic. Experts are saying it [nuclear radiation] will not reach us here," Macaraig told *Saipan Tribune* during yesterday's grand opening of Fashion Clicks boutique in Puerto Rico.

According to Macaraig, the only opinion that matters in this kind of situation is those of local and federal authorities who maintain that Saipan remains safe from the nuclear radiation threat.

"That's the only opinion that we should all listen to at this time. Until they say there is a threat, we should all remain calm. We will go by what the authorities will say," he said.

Macaraig also commended the local government for their "good system" during last Friday's tsunami warning evacuation. "It went very well, very smoothly," he added.

For the meantime, Macaraig urged all Filipinos on island to be prepared at all times. "Prepare a bag that contains all necessary documents that you have to bring with you in the event of an emergency. Always make sure you have enough fuel in your car so you can evacuate to higher grounds, just like what happened last week." ***(Clarissa V. David)***

## HELP

*From Page 1*

"I saved $32 since about four months ago," said Choe, holding a red umbrella to shield herself from the rain. "What happened in Japan is tragic. It's really sad, and I wanted to help."

Choe, born of parents from South Korea and a fifth grader at Whispering Palms School, is just one of the hundreds of children and adults who visited the Garapan Street Market primarily to support a CNMI-Japan fund drive led by the Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

In just three hours, from 6pm to 9pm, the fund drive raised approximately $7,000 at the Garapan Street Market, said Hiroko Tenorio of the Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas.

"The help we've been getting is overwhelming, powerful. I am thankful and I appreciate their help. The economy here is not good right now but even that didn't stop them from helping. It's really amazing," Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune* at the Garapan Street Market.

Beside her were volunteers manning the CNMI-Japan Relief Drive booth. In the booth were two tables with signature sheets and empty water gallons used as donation receptacles

Midori Obi, one of the volunteers, said she was so scared upon seeing the images on TV of the March 11 quake and tsunami in Japan. She said she went up to Capital Hill when a tsunami warning was hoisted.

"I called my family and friends in Japan. Several lines were so busy so I couldn't talk to them. But after four hours, I was able to talk to them," said Obi, a sales and marketing representative at Hard Rock Café Saipan. Obi is from the Yamanashi Prefecture in Japan, and came to work on Saipan some one and a half years ago.

Every minute at the fundraising booth, there's a child or an adult signing up and donating money to help those who were displaced or who lost loved ones in the Japan disaster.

"I feel bad for the people of Japan. I want to help them," said 12-year-old Angel Tan, who went to the Thursday night market only to donate to the relief drive. She was with her father, Samson Tan, a kitchen chef at the Hafadai Beach Hotel in Garapan.

Even tourists from Japan took part in the fund drive. Among them were Masashi Kosaka and three of his friends from Wakayama, Japan who arrived on Saipan on Wednesday.

"This is to help in the restoration of Japan," one of the Japanese tourists said.

Neda Camacho, a counselor at Northern Marianas College, said it's the most human thing to do – "to help."

"No matter how near or far, we should help when we can. This is the time they need our help," she said.

Trina Ito, of Brabu Pharmacy, brought her 7-year-old daughter Ashley to the Garapan Street Market for the fund drive.

"Our economy is always based on tourism and Japan has always been our main tourism market. They have been a big help to our economy. When I heard about this fundraising, I decided to come here. I also brought along my daughter because I want to show her the value of helping," she said.

A nonresident worker from the Philippines, who has been on Saipan for 16 years, said she donated money to the fund drive "because Japan has always been donating and helping the Philippines." She said in her own little way, she wants to express her appreciation.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, and his whole family were also there to donate.

He invited the community to a prayer vigil for the victims and survivors of the Japan quake and tsunami, to be held on Sunday, 6pm, at the American Memorial Park in Garapan.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, almost all Cabinet members, tourism officials, and other government officials also took part in the memorial service at the Garapan Street Market to pray for and honor those affected by the Japan disaster.

Across the CNMI, individuals, schools, corporate citizens and organizations are raising hundreds of thousands of funds to lend a helping hand to the Commonwealth's neighbor and main tourism market of Japan.

Among them are IT&E, IP&E, Docomo Pacific, Bank of Hawaii, IConnect, Delta Airlines, Tan Holdings, Salvation Army, and American Red Cross-NMI Chapter.

Many of the fundraising events are expected to continue for days and weeks. The CNMI-Japan relief fund drive at the Garapan Street Market, for example, will continue on March 24 and March 31.

Yoichi Matsumura of Pacific Development Inc. thanked the governor and lieutenant governor for supporting the CNMI-Japan relief drive.

"On behalf of the Japanese Society of NMI, the Hotel Association of the NMI (HANMI) and Japan Saipan Travel Association (JSTA), we would like to thank you very much indeed for supporting NMI's Japan relief fundraising effort for the huge earthquake and tsunami victims on Japan. The launching of our relief effort last night initially reached $7,000 collection through everybody's kindness and generosity," Matsumura said.

Japan Consul to the CNMI Tsutomu Higuchi said he's "touched" by the show of support to the Japanese people by the CNMI government and its people.

Higuchi said the CNMI government's plan of having CNMI residents host Japanese families affected by the quake and tsunami is a remarkable undertaking. He said he has communicated this plan to the Japanese government, but has yet to hear back from the central government.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas and MVA will also be coming up with other relief efforts that will include in-kind donations similar to what was done during the 2009 Samoan relief drive.

As of Friday, the official death toll from the Japan quake and tsunami reached 6,406 but the number continues to rise as search and recovery efforts continue. At least 10,259 were also reported missing.

## XIAO

*From Page 1*

nese national.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman will decide on the other charge—illegal possession of controlled substance, an offense that carries penalty of not more than five years in prison or not more than $2,000 fine.

Wiseman, who presided over the trial was off-island yesterday. Associate Judge Perry B. Inos presided the hearing yesterday.

Inos set the sentencing of Xiao for May 21, 2011. The judge ordered the Adult Probation Office to conduct a pre-sentence investigation.

Inos remanded the defendant to the Department of Corrections.

Xiao appeared with assistant public defenders Adam Miles and Richard Miller. His lead counsel, chief public defender Adam Hardwicke, was also off-island yesterday.

Assistant Attorneys General Russell Lorfing and Peter Prestley appeared for the government.

Lorfing told *Saipan Tribune* after the hearing that the government is pleased with the conviction as Xiao was a threat to the CNMI community.

"The jury did the right thing," said Lorfing, adding that they thanked the jurors for having the courage in finding the defendant guilty, and also to the diligent work of the detectives.

"The Commonwealth has determined that trafficking of 'ice' is an epidemic and our position is to aggressively prosecute the crime," he said.

The Department of Public Safety claimed last year that 236.5 gross grams of "ice" with a street value of $118,250 were recovered during a raid on April 7, 2010 at the house of Xiao, making it the largest drug bust that DPS conducted without the help of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

But with the drug test conducted by Guam Police Department criminalist Analyn Gatus, it showed, however, that only 3.5 grams were tested for "ice" as the big chunk of evidence submitted for testing actually contained sugar.

Those tested positive for "ice" were the ones recovered from the "cooperating source" who was used to purchase the illegal drugs from Xiao, and those found in the bushy area located in the defendant's backyard. The substance that turned out to be sugar were those recovered by the detectives inside Xiao's house during the search.

Detective Steven Castro, officer in charge of Xiao's case, during cross-examination by chief public defender Hardwicke on Thursday said they thought that the substance that they found inside Xiao's house in Papago was "ice," but after the test conducted by Gatus, it turned out "it was Chinese sugar."

Hardwicke stated that according to the detectives 3.1 grams of "ice" were recovered from a "cooperating source" and the rest were found in the bushy area near Xiao's house.

Hardwicke then asked the detective whether they found "ice" in the defendant's house.

Castro answered that during the search they found illegal drugs in the house, but that examination by Gatus showed it was Chinese sugar.

On the issue of $350 buy money that Xiao allegedly received from the "cooperating source," Hardwicke told Castro: Show me the money! Show me the money! Prove it!

Lorfing objected, saying the defense counsel was not asking question but was demanding from the witness.

Wiseman sustained the objection and told Hardwicke to ask question and not demand from the witness.

Castro said he witnessed Detective Francine Nekai preparing the pre-recorded $350 buy money that was subsequently given to their "cooperating source" who purchased "ice" from Xiao.

Castro also stated that the $300 marked money that was recovered from Xiao after the purchase was subsequently turned over to the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau as part of their policies and procedures.

During the re-direct examination, Lorfing asked what is the street value of 3.5 grams of "ice."

Castro said the street value of "ice" is now $600 to $700 per gram.

The detective said during a drug operation they would seize drug paraphernalia and other evidence that they think are "ice."

At closing arguments, Hardwicke said the government relied on the "cooperating source" who was unreliable. He also pointed out that of the 15 officers who participated in the raid only two officers made reports.

Hardwicke said what was presented as evidence in the case was a cooking sugar and that the prosecution also failed to produce the buy money.

"Without the pre-recorded money, they can't prove it," Hardwicke stressed.

Lorfing in his closing arguments said the evidence against Xiao is overwhelming. He cited, among 40 exhibits, the audio tape recording of the transaction between the "cooperating source" and the defendant, the photos of the crime scene, drug paraphernalia, the drugs that were tested positive for "ice," and photos of the pre-recorded buy money.

"Show me the money? Right here, ladies and gentlemen," said Lorfing as he touched pieces of evidence he placed on the table in front of the jury box.

Lorfing said the detectives indeed first thought they had the biggest drug bust and in fact the officers collected from the scene everything that looked like illegal drugs.

Referring to the seized sugar, the prosecutor said drug suppliers sometimes would use decoy to avoid arrest and that Castro testified that they encountered a lot of decoys during previous drug operations.

"Ladies and gentlemen, you have the evidence. Mr. Xiao is a drug dealer on Saipan!" Lorfing concluded his closing arguments.

## DPL

*From Page 1*

but we will have to review the pool of applicants to see whether they qualify. It's a humungous project DPL is facing. It will also require a huge amount," Babauta told *Saipan Tribune*.

DPL estimates close to $1 million will be needed just to engage a firm that will conduct a general survey of an area in Pagan that will be fit for human resettlement.

Babauta said the large amount includes consideration of the transportation required to reach Pagan from Saipan, among other things.

Another issue that DPL is working on is obtaining an official declaration from the CNMI government whether Pagan is indeed "habitable" at this time decades after volcanic eruption caused its residents to relocate to Saipan.

In June 2010, the House Committee on Natural Resources formed a task force to assess the current availability of pozzolan in Pagan, hoping that an abundant amount still exists to help provide economic benefits to the cash-strapped CNMI. The task force has yet to come up with a formal report on its findings.

A pozzolan is a material commonly used as an addition to Portland cement concrete mixtures to increase the long-term strength and other material properties of Portland cement concrete, and in some cases reduce the material cost of concrete.

# PSS: $6M needed to build new middle school

## »BOE wants commissioner as sole expenditure authority

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Board of Education and the Public School System want Commissioner of Education Dr. Rita A. Sablan to the expenditure authority of all funds to be utilized in building the new middle school in Koblerville area, estimated to cost $6 million.

In a joint letter to NMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, board chair Marylou Ada and commissioner Sablan asked that authority to spend for the project be provided to PSS to ensure its proper implementation.

"We ask that the award of $6 million grant to the PSS specifically provide the commissioner of education with sole expenditure authority and contracting authority so that we can complete the construction of this school and move the 600 students [from Hopwood] in a timely manner," their letter, concurred by the board yesterday, stated.

Sablan said they are pleased that the local delegation agreed to vest expenditure authority and construction management of the new school with the commissioner, through a resolution it passed last March 4.

"Please note that we have the architectural and engineering staff ready to work on this project. We will treat it as an instant school, just as we did with Dandan Elementary School which was built in 90 days," Ada and Sablan said, adding that PSS used multiple contractors working six days a week and finished Dandan school in record time.

The two said that if the project is channeled through the central government it will take years for the school to build.

Sablan and Ada said that the education commissioner is a qualified recipient of federal grant funds, managing over $32 million in direct federal grants each year.

They also noted that the operational expenses for PSS will not increase significant because the teachers and school support will move with the students from Hopwood to Koblerville Junior High School. They anticipate that the new school will be largely energy self-sufficient based upon the $4 million alternative energy investment that were installed at Saipan Southern High School this week.

Based on the project cost estimate, architectural and engineering design will cost $250,000; site work will amount to $442,460; concrete work, $225,460; masonry, $162,110; metals, $923,260; wood and plastics, $115,330; thermal and moisture protection, $9,200; doors and windows, $752,560; finishes, $647,360; specialties, $26,476; conveying systems, $113,880; mechanical, $573,634; electrical, $508,270; green energy, $750,000; and collateral equipment, $500,000.

# Two companies appeal to OPA on PSS contract

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Two companies filed separate appeals to the Office of Public Auditor Wednesday, asking the agency to look into network design and installation project of the Public School System, which they claimed was flawed and violated provisions of the CNMI Constitution.

Public auditor Michael Pai notified Education Commissioner Rita Sablan on the appeals received by his office from Megabyte Computer Sales and Services and Marianas Wireless, two of the three losing bidders of the project.

OPA asked PSS to submit a complete report on the appeals including information about the protests, the bids submitted by protesting bidders, the bidder who was awarded the contract, solicitations including the specifications relevant to the protests, and appeals and any additional evidence or information used in determining the validity of the protests and appeals, among others.

"OPA requests that you provide us with a complete report on the appeals as expeditiously as possible and generally within 25 working days, and furnish a copy of that report to the appellants and any affected parties," Pai told Sablan, in his letter last Wednesday.

Sablan, on Feb. 28, denied both protests of the losing bidders saying that PSS procurement officer Robert Florian made a sound decision in the selection of winning bidder for the network design and installation project for public schools, which contract was awarded to off-island based Pacific Star Communications.

The transaction was labeled by Megabyte and Marianas Wireless as improper and employed favoritism and bias claiming that PacStar did not have a CNMI business license at the time of the bid submission and did not pay NMI gross receipts tax which is clear violation of the law, among other allegations.

They also protested that PacStar should have not been allowed to participate in the bidding process for the project's scope of work which it designed, which was also denied by the commissioner.

# Over 100 entries in PSS STEM Fair

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

This year's CNMI Island-Wide Science Technology Electronic Mathematics Fair drew over 100 entries as it opened yesterday afternoon at the Marianas High School gymnasium.

The three-day event will select outstanding science projects in various categories which will compete in Guam science competition in May.

In her message for the 4th Annual STEM Fair, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said the event is designed to provide students the opportunity to further investigate the sciences and invent things related to technology, electronics, and mathematics.

"We are proud to see many of our students enter in their year's STEM Fair in all the different categories. The participation of our students is an indication of their interest in the science, technology, electronics, and math field. There is so much to be captured in every entry offered by our students," said the commissioner.

She said it is the PSS' hope to prepare the students with their career interests and future studies through their participation in the meaningful event.

The commissioner recognized the hard work extended by teachers, volunteers, and organizers in making the event possible. Prior to the state-wide competition, all public schools conducted their school-level science fair.

According to Vina Claire Saures, PSS science/health program coordinator, the STEM Fair allows students to enhance learning and communication skills through engaging in hands-on activities, experimentation, research, and presentation,

"Today is more than just selecting the best scientists or mathematicians. It is also focused on celebrating the effort and success of all our students. To our scientists, technologists, electricians, and mathematicians, this is an opportunity to let your creativity and hard work shine. We recognize the time and effort you have invested into your work and the entire school system is proud of you," said Saures in her message.

Yesterday was set for the project's registration while judging and viewing is slated today. Awarding of winners is scheduled for Sunday.

There are seven categories in this year's contest: life science, physical science, earth and space science, health nutrition and medical, technology and electronics, mathematics, and behavioral and social science.


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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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## EDITORIAL

## Afghan war's familiar terrain

Testifying before two congressional committees this week, Army Gen. David H. Petraeus offered a familiar assessment of the war in Afghanistan: Progress has been made in the effort to defeat the Taliban, but the gains are tentative and can be undone.

Petraeus' comments also cast doubt on the size of the partial withdrawal promised for July, and suggested that U.S. forces will remain in Afghanistan at significant levels until the NATO-set deadline of 2014, and perhaps beyond. It's a disquieting prospect for those of us who question whether the war is winnable even with another three years of combat, assassinations and nation-building.

In an appearance before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Petraeus, who serves as the head of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, pointed to accomplishments that, in isolation, would seem to suggest that the war is proceeding successfully enough to justify a significant withdrawal of U.S. forces in July. They included "precise intelligence-driven operations to capture and kill insurgent leaders," the growth and increased professionalism of the Afghan armed forces and the fact that "key insurgent safe havens have been taken away from the Taliban."

The problem is that Petraeus also said that the gains were "fragile and reversible." Other analysts have an even less sanguine view. They point to the fact that the Taliban still holds sway over much of the Afghan population and territory and remains a significant political and military force despite the nearly 10-year-old war. Nor has there been adequate progress on another front: reform of the corrupt regime led by President Hamid Karzai. And Pakistan remains a haven for terrorists.

For all the accomplishments Petraeus pointed to, the war is far from being won after almost a decade of U.S. involvement. Yet the Obama administration and its NATO partners seem committed to maintaining significant ground forces until and perhaps even after 2014. Meanwhile, the initial withdrawal, scheduled for July, looks increasingly likely to be a token operation, even if it includes some combat troops.

We would like to think that the gains Petraeus talked about can be sustained. No one wants to see the United States squander the investment it has made in lives and resources. Perhaps staying the course for another three years will result in the achievement of everything the United States has sought in Afghanistan: the routing of the Taliban, al-Qaida and other terrorists; an honest and credible government in Kabul; a professional Afghan army, and a lasting improvement in the lives of ordinary people, including women.

We'd like to believe that's possible, but we're haunted by the image of another general warning in three years that recent gains in Afghanistan were "fragile and reversible."

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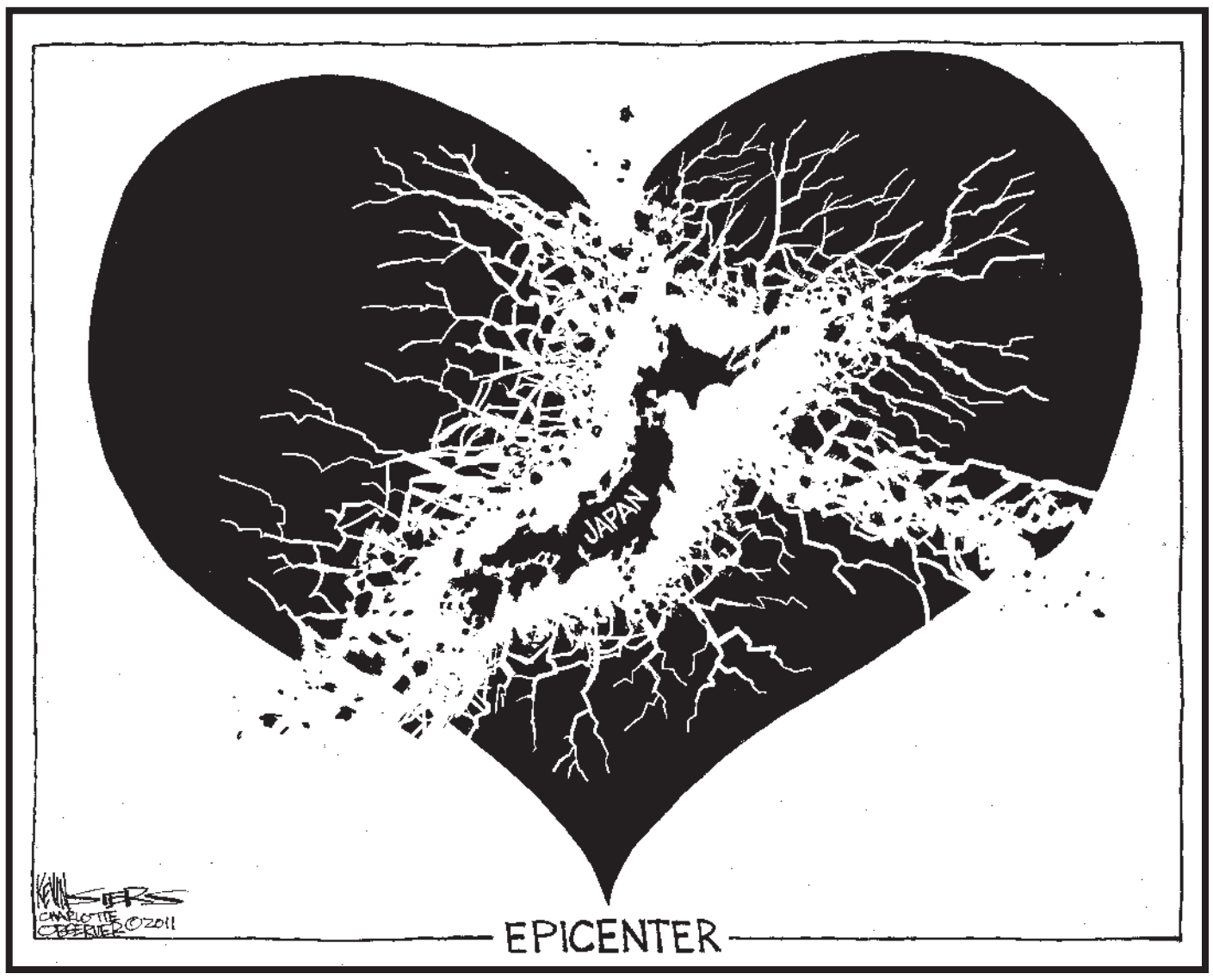


## Don't blame nature; we need to live responsibly

**By FENTON JOHNSON**
Los Angeles Times

*Fenton Johnson's most recent book is* "Keeping Faith: A Skeptic's Journey Among Christian and Buddhist Monks." *He wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

The *New York Times* characterizes the tsunami that struck coastal Japan as "murderous," while a friend writes that "Planet Earth is an unfriendly place." I rode out the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake in my seventh-floor apartment in San Francisco, which experience instilled in me an appropriate terror and respect for the fluidity of so-called terra firma. The epicenter of that 6.1 earthquake was located far from my home—from which I infer that I can only imagine the power and trauma of a 9.0 quake centered close to the Japanese coast.

The key is not to rid ourselves of seeing the world in human terms; we're imaginative creatures, our imaginations are where our greatest fun lies, and besides, we comprehend the universe by placing it in a box whose boundaries and metaphors we draw from human experience. We don't need to abandon anthropomorphism, but we desperately need a bit of distance from the tendency to see the world through our inevitably self-centered eyes.

In his 1759 novel "Candide," the French philosopher Voltaire seized upon the Lisbon earthquake of 1755 (somewhere between 10,000 and 100,000 dead) to satirize his fellow philosopher Gottfried Leibniz. Candide, Voltaire's simple-minded hero, encounters one trauma after another, but each time he accepts the assurance of his mentor, Dr. Pangloss, that these are necessary aspects of, in the words of Leibniz, this "best of all possible worlds."

Interpreted so simplistically, Leibniz's thesis is easy to mock, and yet hilarious and bitterly true as "Candide" is, every page reveals the flaw in Voltaire's attack—his outrage assumes that the universe can and should fulfill our notions of justice. To describe an earthquake as cruel (or a tsunami as murderous) assumes that good and evil are qualities established and defined by some overarching, presumably supernatural power whose ways and means lend themselves to human comprehension and even control. But who says the universe was created so that human beings might understand it—that it must make or is supposed to make sense?

Experts assure us that the damaged nuclear power plants in Japan were aged, that our plants are safe or can be retrofitted to be safe, that the implications of Japan's "partial" meltdowns are not like Chernobyl's, that with enough money and expertise we can insulate ourselves from our rock-and-roll world. I respond with a weary sigh born of the memory of that relatively mild 1989 quake.

Any town near the epicenter of a 9.0 earthquake is going to be swamped, one way or another. Any nuclear power plant near the epicenter of such a quake is going to sustain major damage. Construction of nuclear power facilities must take under consideration not just the shaking, the tsunami and the attendant destruction but also human greed and carelessness. Our decision to build them must proceed not from an assumption of control but its opposite: We will never be able to account for every permutation of the fantastically complex interaction of the world's physical forces—much less the fallibilities of the plants' operators.

We may choose to build nuclear power plants, or we may choose a view of today's lapping waves over worries about tomorrow's tsunami, but let's not kid ourselves about who's responsible for our choices and their consequences. Words like "murderous" and "unfriendly" place the blame on nature, when nature is blameless. If blame must be placed, let us appropriately assume it ourselves.

We decided to build towns on the beach and cities on the faults; we created the complex web of power-hungry machines that require ever more energy. After that honest and mindful reckoning, let us stockpile resources and make evacuation plans and fund more disaster response agencies, even as we take a long, hard, soul-searching look at our insistence on hauling out experts to justify bad ideas (e.g., building nuclear power plants near major fault zones) whenever they serve our short-term priorities.

Energy is the foundation of modern civilized life. Can we generate power cleanly and safely? Can we teach ourselves to live more frugally and use energy more wisely? We are in the midst of a great investigation of those questions. We do the Earth and ourselves the greatest disservice in imagining that addressing them lies outside our lives and choices.

Experience has taught me to have faith in a higher power, which for the sake of efficiency I call God, but my God is not the great gray-bearded guy in the sky tugging and pulling at Earth's strings, however that vision might provide a cool explanation for earthquakes. Instead I believe in the God of Exodus 3:14, "I am what I am," or, in another translation, "I am what is."

"What is" includes everything—earthquakes, tsunamis, laughing babies, your little dog Spot. God's great wisdom has left to us human beings the creation of a world in which we can devise and practice virtue. We will do ourselves and the world a great service by taking responsibility for our choices, in our language and in our lives.

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# Help South Korea, not the North

**By REP. BRAD SHERMAN**
Los Angeles Times

*Rep. Brad Sherman, D-Calif., is a member of the House subcommittees on terrorism, nonproliferation and trade, and Asia and the Pacific. He wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

Supporters of the proposed free-trade agreement between the United States and South Korea argue that we should approve the pact to improve our economy and to reward an ally in a troubled region for its strong security relationship with the United States, and to solidify these strong security ties with a stronger trade relationship. Though there is no doubt South Korea is a close ally, we need to ensure that the agreement does not undermine U.S. security and economic interests by benefiting North Korea.

Just six miles north of the demilitarized zone that separates North from South Korea, factories run by South Korean industrial giants employ 40,000 North Koreans, with plans eventually to employ several hundred thousand. The two nations operate this cooperative manufacturing center, known as the Kaesong industrial park. These workers are not paid directly by their South Korean employers. Instead, their wages are paid to the North Korean government, which pays the workers what it chooses.

These Kaesong workers share virtually none of the rights workers south of the DMZ enjoy. Working conditions have been criticized in the U.S. State Department's annual report on human rights. Some critics of the pact refer to the facility as little more than a slave labor camp.

The United States and South Korea have been working closely to isolate North Korea. But the tough approach that currently holds sway in Seoul has not affected South Korea's affinity for Kaesong. Despite increased tensions and real fears of war on the peninsula, Kaesong has continued to operate uninterrupted since its opening in late 2004.

While Washington is attempting to isolate the North Korean regime economically through a robust program of unilateral and multilateral sanctions, Pyongyang directly collects about $3 million to $4 million a month from Kaesong, plus millions more in various fees paid by South Korean companies. For the cash-strapped government of North Korea, that is a significant sum.

For national security, labor and human rights reasons, the United States needs to make sure that no products from Kaesong receive duty-free or other preferable treatment under the pending free-trade agreement. In fact, no product of Kaesong (or any North Korean plant) should be allowed into the United States. Asking American workers to compete against duty-free imports made by grossly underpaid North Koreans is hardly in our national interest.

It is true that U.S. sanctions already restrict imports from North Korea. But that policy can be changed with the stroke of a pen, because the existing restrictions are based on broad statutes that allow the executive branch to impose or remove sanctions without any meaningful congressional input.

The free-trade pact makes no mention of a ban on North Korean goods. In fact, its rules of origin appear to allow North Korean goods to be incorporated into South Korean products and given duty-free treatment under the agreement. For example, automobiles with only 35 percent South Korean content would receive favorable treatment under the agreement. If the United States blocks automobiles with as much as 65 percent North Korean content from duty-free access to the United States, we would be found in violation of the agreement as drafted. We would then have to allow these products into our country or suffer the imposition of legal retaliatory tariffs on U.S. products, thus forfeiting the economic advantages of the free-trade agreement.

*While Washington is attempting to isolate the North Korean regime economically through a robust program of unilateral and multilateral sanctions, Pyongyang directly collects about $3 million to $4 million a month from Kaesong, plus millions more in various fees paid by South Korean companies. For the cash-strapped government of North Korea, that is a significant sum.*

The current draft agreement also has a mechanism to declare goods 100 percent made in Kaesong as goods of South Korean origin, fully eligible for free access to the U.S. market. My interpretation of the vaguely worded agreement is that such action could be taken at any time by this administration, or the next one, without congressional approval. The then-Korean prime minister, and now ambassador to the United States, spelled out the pact's goals in a December 2007 visit to Kaesong: "The planned ratification of the South Korea-U.S. free-trade agreement will pave the way for the export of products built in Kaesong to the U.S. market." Under the current draft of the agreement, he is right.

Specifically, Annex 22B of the agreement includes this language: "Decisions reached by the unified consent of the committee shall be recommended to the parties, which shall be responsible for seeking legislative approval for any amendments to the agreement." That language is highly ambiguous, and no one should assume that "legislative approval" means Congress would have to actually enact a statute. In our system, we have a number of ways Congress may be deemed to have provided its "consent."

More than three years ago, I held hearings in the terrorism, nonproliferation and trade subcommittee in which I questioned Bush administration officials on my concerns regarding the possibility that North Korea would benefit through this agreement, including through goods exported to the United States. I specifically asked an official from the office of the U.S. trade representative whether a statute would be necessary to provide the "legislative approval" contemplated by the annex. The witness evaded the question. So, I wrote the current trade representative on Feb. 9, asking the same question. I've yet to receive a reply.

The text of the agreement must be changed, and the implementing legislation must make clear that any product with North Korean content will be barred. And it must make clear that any decision to apply the terms of the agreement to Kaesong, or any other facility on North Korean territory, must be explicitly approved by an act of Congress.

The free-trade agreement cannot be allowed to benefit North Korea. As currently drafted, it probably will.

# Constitutional referendum a turning point for Egypt

**By TRUDY RUBIN**
The Philadelphia Inquirer

*Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the* Philadelphia Inquirer*. Readers may write to her at:* Philadelphia Inquirer, *P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by e-mail at trubin@phillynews.com.*

Overshadowed by the terrifying events in Japan and the violence in Libya, the struggle for Mideast democracy will reach a turning point this week in Egypt.

I'm not referring to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's visit to Cairo on Wednesday, including a walk through Tahrir Square, the scene of last month's revolution. That visit was significant, both for what happened and what didn't, but I'll get to that later.

I refer instead to a national referendum Saturday that will consider several amendments to Egypt's constitution. The vote will determine whether the country advances toward the democratic reforms the rebels are seeking, or slides toward a mix of authoritarian and Islamist rule.

Let me first give you the good news about Egypt: In stark contrast to the bloodshed in Libya, Yemen, and Bahrain, most ongoing battles in Cairo involve points of law, not weapons. That doesn't mean that this legal strife is not tense and divisive; it will decide whether new, more democratic political forces can emerge on the Egyptian scene.

At first glance, the proposed constitutional amendments appear to make some positive changes, such as limiting Egyptian presidents to two four-year terms and curbing their power to maintain an indefinite state of emergency.

But then things get sticky. Many Egyptian constitutional experts complain that the military—which is temporarily in charge—failed to include the country's top constitutional experts on the panel that wrote the amendments. It did include jurists close to the old regime, along with a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, an Islamist organization.

"We are worried about the way of thinking of the military in forming such a committee," says Nasser Amin, head of the Arab Center for the Independence of the Judiciary.

Critics say the referendum fails to mandate the rewriting of the current, much-criticized constitution. One hotly debated article of that document decrees that the principles of sharia (Islamic law) provide the source for all legislation. Many of the young rebels want the definite article the changed to a, meaning sharia is only one of many sources.

What really scares the young rebels, however, is that the amendments set up an optional process for rewriting the constitution that, if used, would effectively hand control to the Muslim Brotherhood and pols from the old regime.

Here's how it would work: If the next parliament so chooses, it can form a committee to draft a new constitution. But elections for the next parliament are set for June, according to the military's timetable. This doesn't allow enough time for the rebels to form new parties, and gives the advantage to the only political forces that already have structure and funds—the former ruling NDP party, which will return under a new name, and the Muslim Brotherhood.

"It won't be a fair fight," I was told by Shady el-Ghazaly Harb, a 32-year-old surgeon and member of the Coalition of Revolutionary Youth _ the organizational leaders of the revolution. "The next parliament might be overwhelmed by the Brotherhood and the NDP, who would form the next constitution. That would be a disaster."

Not surprising, nearly all the groups that led the revolt, along with all opposition parties, are urging the public to vote no on the referendum. They want the military to postpone parliamentary elections until after an interim period of a year, during which a new constitution is drafted through a more open process. This would also give new parties time to organize.

So, Americans—who have a dog in the Egyptian democracy fight—should be watching to see what happens Saturday. After all, Egypt is the largest and most important Arab country. If Egypt's revolution goes well, it could help stabilize a reeling region (whose oil, unfortunately, appears even more crucial as Japan's reactors melt down).

This brings me back to Clinton, who said in Cairo, "No one is permitted to hijack this revolution." The United States would "help in any way possible," she added.

Yet the leaders of the Coalition of Revolutionary Youth refused to meet with Clinton in Cairo. Harb told me by phone that the group had "a personal problem with Mrs. Clinton" because her early statements "were totally against the revolution and supported the (Mubarak) regime."

I wish Harb and the others had met with Clinton. She surely grasps now that Egypt is central to a Mideast whose uprisings are mostly going awry. She offered Egypt an economic-aid package—including credits and new trade benefits—that could help create desperately needed jobs for Egypt's youth bulge.

But I hope she was also urging the Egyptian military, with whom we have economic leverage, to listen more closely to the young rebels. In a region where U.S. influence is waning and the White House is still groping for a policy, we need Egypt to succeed.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲86° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼76° | ▲86° ▼76° |

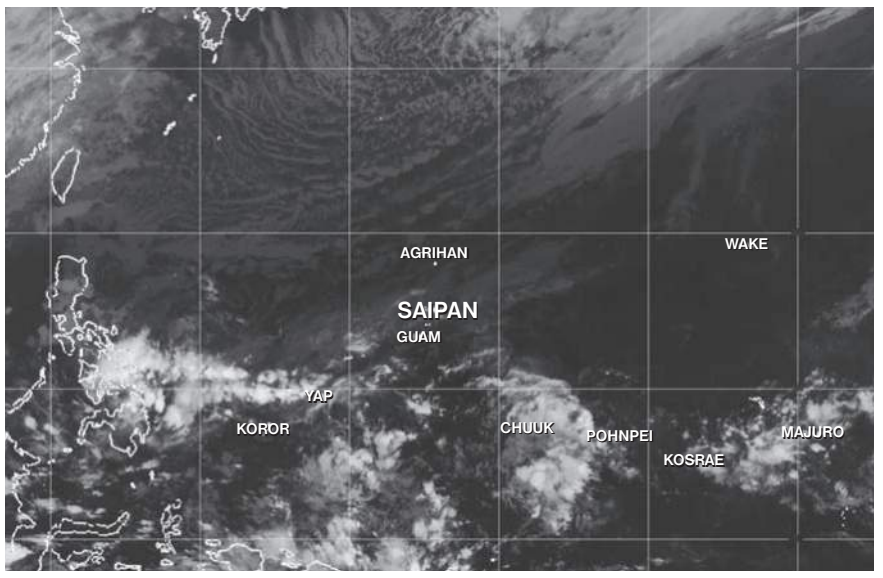
## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thundershowers | ▲86 | ▼78 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲85 | ▼78 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲89 | ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲83 | ▼77 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲88 | ▼76 |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | ▲87 | ▼78 |
| Majuro | Showers | ▲83 | ▼78 |

## Around The Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Mostly Sunny | ▲71 | ▼62 |
| Beijing | Mostly Cloudy | ▲60 | ▼34 |
| Hong Kong | Showers | ▲72 | ▼67 |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | ▲81 | ▼71 |
| London | Mostly Sunny | ▲53 | ▼35 |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | ▲63 | ▼48 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲85 | ▼75 |
| Melbourne | Partly Cloudy | ▲77 | ▼56 |
| Miami | Sunny | ▲81 | ▼62 |
| New York | Showers | ▲50 | ▼35 |
| Osaka | Showers | ▲58 | ▼47 |
| Paris | Partly Sunny | ▲50 | ▼35 |
| Pusan | Showers | ▲53 | ▼45 |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | ▲64 | ▼45 |
| Salem | Showers | ▲54 | ▼37 |
| San Francisco | Showers | ▲54 | ▼49 |
| Seoul | Showers | ▲51 | ▼38 |
| Tokyo | Showers | ▲62 | ▼46 |
| Washington, DC | Showers | ▲56 | ▼41 |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2011**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line runs southwestward from 18N153E across the Marianas to beyond 130E at 7N. Cloudiness and scattered showers are present near Rota, Tinian and Saipan or along and up to 150 miles north of the shear line west of 147E. A cold front extends southwestward from 25N158E passes south of Minami Tori Shima and continues beyond 130E at 12N. Clouds and patchy rain are found along and up to 250 miles northwest of the front. Converging low-level winds are producing scattered showers south and southeast of Koror and Yap or south of a line from 4N130E to 7N142E to 11N150E. A surface trough stretches northeastward from 1N151E to 8N155E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near Chuuk and Pohnpei between 1N and 9N from 150E to 159E. Convergent trade winds are generating scattered showers east of Majuro or between 3N and 11N from 172E to the dateline.

## Tides

**Saipan Harbor**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1:05 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.1 Feet |
| 7:21 AM | Today | High Tide: | 2.1 Feet |
| 1:32 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.4 Feet |
| 7:22 PM | Today | High Tide: | 2.1 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 6:23 AM | 6:28 PM |
| Sunday | 6:22 AM | 6:28 PM |
| Monday | 6:21 AM | 6:28 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:20 AM | 6:28 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:20 AM | 6:28 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:59 PM | 5:29 AM |
| Sunday | 6:59 PM | 6:16 AM |
| Monday | 8:01 PM | 7:04 AM |
| Tuesday | 9:04 PM | 7:54 AM |
| Wednesday | 10:07 PM | 8:47 AM |

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09317 | 4:25am | 5:15am | Daily |
| C09313 | 7:55am | 8:45am | 3, 6 |
| C09313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09601 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09603 | 3:05pm | 3:55pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09605 | 6:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily |
| C09599 | 9:30pm | 10:20pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL287 | 6:10am | 8:45am | Daily |
| DL285 | 6:40am | 9:15am | 1, 3, ,4, 5, 6 |
| DL297 | 4:35pm | 7:15pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 6:40am | Daily |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:20am | 6:50am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ606 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ606 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| OZ604 | 3:20pm | 7:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 11:25am | Daily via KIX |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM844 | 2:50am | 5:40am | 2, 6 |

**SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CA988 | 3:15am | 6:55am | 1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only |

**SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ606/701 | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ606/701 | 2:40am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C09317/891 | 4:25am | 9:45am | 3, 6 via GUM |
| DL285/173 | 6:40am | 10:15pm | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT |
| C09313/933 | 7:55am | 9:25pm | 3 via GUM |
| C09313/893 | 7:55am | 11:00pm | 3 via GUM-Palau |
| C09603/933 | 3:05pm | 9:25pm | 5 via GUM |
| C09603/893 | 3:05pm | 11:00pm | 5 via GUM-Palau |
| OZ604/703 | 3:20pm | 11:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 ICN |
| OZ604/715 | 3:20pm | 11:30pm | 7 |
| C09605/933 | 6:20pm | 9:40pm | 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| C09599/PR111 | 9:30pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |

**SAIPAN-HONG KONG**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ606/721 | 2:10am | 12:00pm | 1 via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:40am | 12:00pm | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C09603/909 | 3:05pm | 10:25pm | 1, 5 via GUM |
| OZ604/723 | 3:20pm | 10:35pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ604/749 | 3:20pm | 11:00pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |

### ARRIVALS

**GUAM-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C09316 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| C09596 | 6:35am | 7:25am | 3, 6 |
| C09596 | 7:00am | 7:50am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09600 | 10:05am | 10:55am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09602 | 1:40pm | 2:30pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C09604 | 5:00pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| C09606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |

**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DL298 | 10:25am | 3:05pm | Daily |
| DL286 | 7:45pm | 12:20am+1 | 2, 3, ,4 ,5, 7 |
| DL288 | 8:00pm | 12:30am+1 | Daily |

**OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ120 | 9:50am | 2:20am+1 | Daily |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:10pm | 2:20am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ603 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| OZ120 | 7:10pm | 2:20am+1 | Daily via KIX |
| OZ605 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ605 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |

**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM843 | 7:15pm | 1:50am+1 | 1, 5 |

**BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CA987 | 6:40pm | 1:55am+1 | 4, 7 Dec 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 only |

**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ704/603 | 12:10am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ716/603 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | 4, 6 via ICN |
| DL172/286 | 8:05am | 12:20am+1 | 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| C0890/9606 | 10:55am | 8:50pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| OZ702/605 | 1:10pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/605 | 1:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| PR110/C09596 | 10:15pm | 7:25am+1 | 6 via GUM |
| PR110/C09596 | 10:15pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM |
| C0892/9596 | 10:25pm | 7:25am+1 | 3 via GUM-Palau |
| C0892/9596 | 10:25pm | 7:50am+1 | 5 via GUM-Palau |
| C0934/9596 | 11:10pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 2, 7 via GUM |
| C0934/9596 | 11:25pm | 7:50am+1 | 4 via GUM |
| C0934/9596 | 11:59pm | 7:25am+1 | 3 via GUM |
| C0934/9596 | 11:59pm | 7:50am+1 | 5 via GUM |

**HONG KONG-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ724/603 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | 2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ750/603 | 1:00am | 2:20pm | 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/605 | 1:30pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/605 | 1:30pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| C0910/9596 | 11:15pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

**POLICY**

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Guam–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:30 | 8:00 | Daily |
| **Rota–Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 8:20 | 8:50 | Daily |
| **Guam–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 17:00 | 17:30 | Daily |
| **Rota–Saipan** | 17:50 | 18:20 | Daily |
| **Saipan–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily |
| **Rota–Guam** | 10:20 | 10:45 | Daily |
| **Saipan–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily |
| **Rota–Guam** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 19:40 | 20:10 | Daily |
| **Saipan–Tinian** | | | |
| FRE 101 | 6:45 | 6:55 | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30 | 7:40 | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00 | 8:10 | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40 | 8:50 | Daily |
| FRE 109 | 9:10 | 9:20 | Daily |
| FRE 111 | 10:45 | 10:55 | Daily |

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRE 113 | 11:40 | 11:50 | Daily |
| FRE 115 | 13:00 | 13:10 | Daily |
| FRE 117 | 14:30 | 14:40 | Daily |
| FRE 119 | 16:00 | 16:10 | Daily |
| FRE 121 | 16:40 | 16:50 | Daily |
| FRE 123 | 17:40 | 17:50 | Daily |
| FRE 125 | 18:30 | 18:40 | Daily |
| **Tinian–Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 102 | 7:05 | 7:15 | Daily |
| FRE 104 | 7:50 | 8:00 | Daily |
| FRE 106 | 8:20 | 8:30 | Daily |
| FRE 108 | 9:00 | 9:10 | Daily |
| FRE 110 | 10:00 | 10:10 | Daily |
| FRE 112 | 11:05 | 11:15 | Daily |
| FRE 114 | 12:00 | 12:10 | Daily |
| FRE 116 | 13:30 | 13:40 | Daily |
| FRE 118 | 14:50 | 15:00 | Daily |
| FRE 120 | 16:20 | 16:30 | Daily |
| FRE 122 | 17:00 | 17:10 | Daily |
| FRE 124 | 18:05 | 18:15 | Daily |
| FRE 126 | 18:50 | 19:00 | Daily |

**NMI CRIME STOPPERS**

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

# SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

## CATHOLIC

**Mt. Carmel Cathedral**
Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

**Korean Center**
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

**Kristo Rai Parish**
Sunday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

**Santa Soledad Mission Parish**
Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

**Saint Jude Parish**
Monday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

**San Antonio Parish**
Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

**San Francisco de Borja-Rota**
Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro
Wednesday:6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

**San Isidro-Rota**
Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

**San Jose (Oleai) Parish**
Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

**San Roque Parish**
Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass
Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm
Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

**San Vicente Parish**
Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

**Santa Remedios**
Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm

## PROTESTANT

**Born Again Christian**
(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

**Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan**
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm
Telephone no. 234-6026/27

**Chinese Christian Church of Saipan**
Worship Services:
Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm
Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm
Telephone no. 235-8540

**Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan**
Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm
As Perdido Road
Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No. (670) 235-8590
Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

**Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan**
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

**Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan**
Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am
Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio
Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)
Telephone no. 322-5680

**Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan**
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

**Immanuel United Methodist Church**
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa
(east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

**Immanuel Methodist Church**
(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)
(Korean Congregation)
Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm
Wednesday evening service: 8pm
Daily morning prayer: 5am

**Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan**
Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am,
Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm,
Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

**Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan**
Sunday School: 9:20am
Sunday Adult: 11am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

**Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan**
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

**Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan**
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

**Missions Connection Ministry**
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

**Northern Marianas Christian Church**
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1
for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

**Marianas Bible Fellowship Center**
Sunday School: 9-9:30am
Divine Worship: 9:30-11am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

**Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)**
Sunday worship 8:30am
Sunday evening 7:00pm
Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm
San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel
Telephone: 789-7566

**Saipan Christian Church**
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

**Saipan Church of Christ**
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 10-11am
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm
Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

**Saipan Community Church**
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

**Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan**
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

**First Baptist Church Koblerville**
Sunday services:
Sunday school 9:00am
Morning worship 10:00am
Evening service 6:00pm
Wednesday evening bible study 7:00pm

Chinese services
Sunday morning 10:00am
Sunday evening 7:00pm

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church.
Telephone No: 285-4661/2

**Thy Word Ministries Saipan**
Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

**Upper Room International Ministries**
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

**Victory Chapel Christian**
Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

**VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN CHURCH**
(Formerly God's Victorious Army)
Sunday 8:30am to 10:30am - Worship Service
Monday 7:00 pm - Women's Fellowship
Tuesday nights - Home cellgroup
Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm Mid Week Service
Friday 7:30pm to 9:00pm Prayer Meeting
Saturday nights - Praise and worship practice
Last Friday of the month - Overnight praying meeting
Pastor Brendon Perez - Tel# 2359246

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call *Saipan Tribune* at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

# Business

## United Continental extend options for travelers

**CHICAGO**—United Continental Holdings, Inc. has extended travel options for United and Continental customers whose flight plans may be affected by the earthquake and its aftermath in Japan.

Customers scheduled on flights through March 31, 2011, to, from or through certain Japanese airports may reschedule their itinerary with a one-time date or time change, and the change fees will be waived. Complete details and eligible travel dates are available at united.com and continental.com.

In addition, customers scheduled on flights through March 31, 2011, to, from or through certain Japanese airports may cancel their itinerary entirely, regardless of whether their flight schedule has been affected. A refund in the original form of payment may be requested, and Mileage Plus and OnePass reward tickets may be cancelled with mileage redeposited for no fee. Customers wishing to cancel their itinerary should submit a refund request form that can be found on their respective carrier's website.

The fastest and most convenient way to change travel plans is via united.com or continental.com.

Customers should continue to manage their reservations on the respective company's website from which their ticket was purchased. Customers may also book a new reservation, change an existing reservation or check flight status by calling United Reservations at 800-UNITED-1 or Continental Reservations at 800-525-0280 or their travel agent.

Customers scheduled to travel to the region are encouraged to check their flight status on their respective company's websites. Additional information about potential flight delays, cancellations and gate changes is available at United's EasyUpdate service or Continental's TripAlert service, which provide customers notifications via phone, text or e-mail. ***(United Continental)***

## Yen falls after G7 pledge to support Japan

**TOKYO** (AP)—The yen fell sharply Friday after the Group of Seven major industrialized nations pledged solidarity with Japan and promised to intervene in currency markets to support its earthquake recovery.

The yen hit a record high against the dollar Thursday, possibly threatening Japan's exports and making economic recovery from a devastating quake and tsunami more difficult. Shortly after the G-7 announcement, the yen fell from 79.45 to the dollar to 81.26 in Tokyo.

Japan's Finance Minister Yoshihiko Noda said Friday the government would intervene in the Tokyo market once morning trading opened. Ministry spokespeople declined later to confirm whether that happened.

Noda said the planned intervention was meant to calm "volatility" and G-7 governments were not aiming at a specific exchange rate for the yen.

"We are not aiming for a specific level," the minister told reporters.

The G-7 pledge adds to a flurry of moves by Japan to calm roiled financial markets following the 9.0-magnitude quake and tsunami on March 11, which killed thousands of people and triggered an unfolding nuclear crisis.

In a joint statement issued following emergency discussions, the G-7 officials said that the United States, Britain, Canada and the European Central Bank will join with Japan in a "concerted intervention" in currency markets Friday. It would be the first time since late 2000 that the governments have jointly intervened in currency markets.

"We express our solidarity with the Japanese people in these difficult times," the statement said.

Japan's currency has strengthened because companies are selling dollar-denominated assets and converting to yen as they prepare to pay to repair earthquake damage, traders say.

Goldman Sachs estimated Japan's disaster losses could reach $200 billion, the equivalent of more than 3 percent of Japan's annual gross domestic product.

"The falls in equity markets elsewhere appear, rather perversely, to have boosted safe haven demand for the yen," said research firm Capital Economics in a report.

It is unclear how much a change in exchange rates might help Japanese exporters, which also are struggling with power shortages that have forced major auto manufacturers and others to suspend production.

"Many would currently be unable to benefit from a weaker yen anyway," Capital Economics said. "A stronger currency will at least make imports cheaper and therefore minimize the additional costs of meeting any shortfall in necessities following the disruption to domestic supplies."

# Nation

# Obama reassures: Japan's radiation won't reach US

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama, trying to reassure a worried nation, declared Thursday that "harmful levels" of radiation from the Japanese nuclear disaster are not expected to reach the U.S., even as other officials conceded it could take weeks to bring the crippled nuclear complex under control.

The situation remains dangerous and complicated at the damaged Fukushima Dai-ichi reactors in northeastern Japan, U.S. officials said.

"We've seen an earthquake and tsunami render an unimaginable toll of death and destruction on one of our closest friends and allies in the world," Obama said in brief remarks at the White House after a visit to the Japanese Embassy to offer his condolences.

Obama said he had asked the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to conduct a "comprehensive review" of the safety of all U.S. nuclear plants.

"When we see a crisis like the one in Japan, we have a responsibility to learn from this event and to draw from those lessons to ensure the safety and security of our people," Obama said.

There are 104 nuclear reactors in the United States, providing roughly 20 percent of the nation's electricity. "Nuclear energy is an important part of our own energy future," Obama said.

A leading industry group agreed with the review.

"A review of our nuclear plants is an appropriate step after an event of this scale and we expect that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will conduct its own assessment," said Marvin Fertel, president of the Nuclear Energy Institute. "The industry's highest priority is the safe operation of 104 reactors in 31 states and we will incorporate lessons learned from this accident..."

Meanwhile, the first evacuation flight of U.S. citizens left Japan, the State Department said.

In the U.S., Customs and Border Protection said there had been reports of radiation being detected from some cargo arriving from Japan at several airports, including ones in Chicago, Dallas and Seattle.

AP

President Barack Obama walks out to make a statement about Japan following last week's earthquake, tsunami, and subsequent nuclear concerns, Thursday, March 17, 2011, in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington.

Radiation had not been detected in passengers or luggage. And none of the reported incidents involved harmful amounts.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said the agency was screening passengers and cargo for "even a blip of radiation."

Obama said he knows that Americans are worried about potential risks from airborne radiation that could drift across the Pacific. "So I want to be very clear," he said. "We do not expect harmful levels of radiation to reach the United States, whether it's the West Coast, Hawaii, Alaska or U.S. territories."

Obama defended the recommendation of federal nuclear safety officials for a 50-mile evacuation zone around the crippled nuclear power plant for American troops and citizens in Japan, even though that is far larger than the zone spelled out by Japanese officials.

"This decision was based on a careful scientific evaluation," Obama said. "Beyond this 50-mile radius, the risks do not currently call for an evacuation."

At the same time, he said it was important to evacuate Americans "who may be endangered by exposure to radiation if the situation deteriorates."

Japanese officials have established a 12-mile evacuation zone and have said that people living 12 to 20 miles from the plant should stay inside.

Gregory Jaczko, chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, told reporters at a White House briefing it could be some time before the crisis is brought under control as crews work to cool spent-fuel rods and get the damaged Japanese reactors under control. The activity could continue for days and "possibly weeks," Jaczko said.

He said the U.S. recommendation that American troops and citizens stay 50 miles away from the nuclear complex was "a prudent and precautionary measure to take." But he also said "basic physics" suggested there was little risk to anyone in the United States or its Pacific territories.

Daniel B. Poneman, deputy secretary of energy, told the briefing that a "very dangerous situation" remains in Japan. Information at the nuclear plant is "genuinely complex and genu-

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Transplant patient got AIDS from new kidney

**ATLANTA** (AP)—A transplant patient contracted AIDS from the kidney of a living donor, in the first documented case of its kind in the U.S. since screening for HIV began in the mid-1980s. It turns out the donor had unprotected gay sex in the 11 weeks between the time he tested negative and the time the surgery took place in 2009. In a report Thursday on the New York City case, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended that organ donors have repeat HIV tests a week before surgery.

### Overdose leaves Minn. teen dead, 10 hospitalized

**BLAINE, Minn.** (AP)—Eleven teenagers and young adults were hospitalized Thursday and one of them died after apparently overdosing on an unregulated hallucinogenic drug while celebrating spring break at a house party in the Minneapolis suburbs, authorities said. The drug, which is called 2C-E and is also known as "Europa," has no medical use and was bought legally over the Internet for the party in Blaine, said Paul Sommer, a commander in the Anoka County Sheriff's Office. Officers called to the home because of a reported overdose found several people already sickened when they arrived shortly after midnight. Others who fled the house were later found to be suffering the effects of an overdose, investigators said.

### Pageant: Beauty queen bikini photos 'unusable'

**SAN ANTONIO** (AP)—A Texas beauty queen gained enough weight that airbrushing couldn't fix photos of her in a bikini, but that's not why the size-2 teen had her Miss San Antonio crown revoked, the pageant president told a jury Thursday. She said the girl was let go because she didn't follow pageant rules. Domonique Ramirez caused a stir worldwide when she said pageant organizers harassed her about her weight before stripping her sash in January. The 17-year-old has sued to reclaim her title and compete for Miss Texas.

# Ariz. Senate rejects illegal immigration bills

**PHOENIX** (AP)—The Arizona Senate soundly defeated five bills aimed at illegal immigration on Thursday in a marked departure from last year, when enactment of a tough local enforcement measure put the state at the heart of a fierce national debate over the issue.

Majority Republicans were split in their votes on the defeated bills, which included two measures intended to force a U.S. Supreme Court ruling against automatic citizenship for U.S.-born children of illegal immigrants. The other three dealt with health care, public services and everyday activities such as driving.

With business leaders urging lawmakers to put the issue aside to avoid damaging the still-ailing economy, "it's time for us to take a timeout," said Republican Sen. John McComish of Phoenix. "It's something that the people don't want us to be focusing on."

Critics also said the bills rejected Thursday were over-reaching and flawed.

Supporters of the measures voiced frustration and said there could be political fallout for lawmakers who voted against them.

"The lack of political courage" is the only impediment to step up pressure on illegal immigration, said Republican Sen. Russell Pearce, the sponsor of the 2010 law.

The two bills on citizenship were defeated on votes of 12-18 and 11-19 as majority Republicans split on the issue. The chamber's nine Democrats voted against all of the bills.

"I'm hopeful that now we can move on and focus on the business of the state," Democratic Minority Leader David Schapira of Tempe said after the three-hour floor session.

One of the rejected bills would have required hospitals to contact federal immigration officials or local law enforcement if people being treated lack insurance and can't demonstrate legal status.

Critics said that would burden hospitals, but Republican Sen. Steve Smith of Maricopa said his bill didn't require much.

"Maybe you forgot it's illegal to be in this country illegally," he said during the vote on his bill. "We just ask them to report the crime, not be the judge and executioner."

Also defeated was a bill to require schools to file reports on enrollments of illegal immigrant students.

The fifth bill was a sweeping measure sponsored by Pearce. It would have made it a crime for illegal immigrants to drive in Arizona. It also had provisions on registering vehicles, workplace hiring and various public benefits.

It would ban illegal immigrants from attending Arizona's public universities and community colleges. The state does not now have a ban but it does require illegal immigrants to pay higher, non-resident tuition rates.

Pearce's bill also would have required eviction of public housing tenants who let illegal immigrants live with them and make applicants for vehicle titles and registration prove they are in the country legally.

Pearce and other supporters said cracking down on illegal immigration would provide relief to taxpayers by cutting costs for education, health care and other services.

# Feds: Pattern of misconduct by New Orleans police

**NEW ORLEANS** (AP)—New Orleans police officers have often used deadly force without justification, repeatedly made unconstitutional arrests and engaged in racial profiling, the Justice Department said Thursday in a scathing report.

Mayor Mitch Landrieu called the report sobering but not surprising, given the highly publicized problems laid bare after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The mayor had requested the review shortly after taking office in May 2010 and said many of the problems outlined in the report were exposed after Katrina but existed long before the storm devastated the low-lying city on the Mississippi River.

The report found that the department has long failed to adequately protect New Orleans residents because of numerous shortcomings, including inadequate supervision and ineffective methods of taking and investigating complaints.

The report's release comes as one former police officer awaits sentencing for a federal manslaughter conviction in a post-Katrina shooting and as others await trial in the separate killings of unarmed civilians. Justice Department officials made no mention of the active criminal cases in their report.

"Even the most serious uses of force, such as officer-involved shootings and in-custody deaths, are investigated inadequately or not at all," the report said, referring frequently to the department by its acronym NOPD. "NOPD's mishandling of officer-involved shooting investigations was so blatant and egregious that it appeared intentional in some respects."

It said poor recruitment, bad training, ignorance or disregard of policies that often are unclear contributed to a lack of confidence and even a distrust of the police. That, in turn contributes to a violent crime problem that police have found difficult to control, the report said.

The report says internal investigations are conducted by field supervisors who lack training and that discipline had been meted out inconsistently. These and other problems "render NOPD's system for investigating and responding to allegations of officer misconduct ineffective at changing officer behavior or holding officers responsible for their actions."

Mary Howell, a civil rights lawyer who has frequently represented victims of alleged police misconduct, agreed with the findings.

"You cannot fight crime with a brutal and corrupt police department," she added. "We have had it for years and we have paid dearly for that."

Landrieu and his hand-picked police chief, Ronal Serpas, said reforms already are under way and they welcomed the report.

"There's nobody in this room that is surprised by the general tenor and tone of what this report has to say," Landrieu said at the news conference with Serpas and Justice Department officials, including U.S. Attorney Jim Letten.

# Asia

## More smoke rises from Japan's crippled nuke plant

**YAMAGATA, Japan** (AP)—Smoke billowed from a building at Japan's crippled nuclear power plant Friday as emergency crews worked to reconnect electricity to cooling systems and spray more water on overheating nuclear fuel at the tsunami-ravaged facility.

Four of the troubled Fukushima Dai-ichi plant's six reactor units have seen fires, explosions or partial meltdowns in the week since the tsunami. While the reactor cores where energy is generated are a concern, water in the pools used to store used nuclear fuel are also major worries. Water in at least one fuel pool—in the complex's Unit 3—is believed to be dangerously low, exposing the stored fuel rods. Without enough water, the rods may heat further and spew out radiation.

"We see it as an extremely serious accident," Yukiya Amano, the head of the U.N.'s International Atomic Energy Agency, told reporters Friday just after arriving in Tokyo. "This is not something that just Japan should deal with, and people of the entire world should cooperate with Japan and the people in the disaster areas."

Frantic efforts were made Thursday to douse a number of units with water, and authorities were preparing to repeat many of those efforts.

Friday's smoke came from the complex's Unit 2, and its cause was not known, the nuclear safety agency said. An explosion had hit the building on Tuesday, possibly damaging a crucial cooling chamber that sits below the reactor core.

Last week's 9.0 quake and tsunami in Japan's northeast set off the nuclear problems by knocking out power to cooling systems at the reactors. The unfolding crises have led to power shortages in Japan, forced auto and other factories to close, sending shockwaves through global manufacturing and trade, and triggered a plunge in Japanese stock prices.

Low levels of radiation have been detected well beyond Tokyo, which is 140 miles (220 kilometers) south of the plant, but hazardous levels have been limited to the plant itself. Still, the crisis has forced thousands to evacuate and drained Tokyo's normally vibrant streets of life, its residents either leaving town or holing up in their homes.

The Japanese government has been slow in releasing information on the crisis, even as the troubles have multiplied. In a country where the nuclear industry has a long history of hiding its safety problems, this has left many people—in Japan and among governments overseas—confused and anxious.

"I feel a sense of dread," said Yukiko Morioka, 63, who has seen business dry up at her lottery ticket booth in Tokyo. "I'm not an expert, so it's difficult to understand what's going on. That makes it scarier."

A senior official with the U.N. nuclear agency said Thursday there had been "no significant worsening" at the nuclear plant but that the situation remained "very serious." Graham Andrew told reporters in Vienna that nuclear fuel rods in two reactors were only about half covered with water, and they were also not completely submerged in a third.

Edano said Friday that Tokyo is asking the U.S. government for help and that the two are discussing the specifics.

"We are coordinating with the U.S. government as to what the U.S. can provide and what people really need," Edano said.

At times, the two close allies have offered starkly differing assessments over the dangers at Fukushima. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Gregory Jazcko said Thursday that it could take days and "possibly weeks" to get the complex under control. He defended the U.S. decision to recommend a 50-mile (80-kilometer) evacuation zone for its citizens, wider than the 30-mile (50-kilometer) band Japan has ordered.

## *Hope for missing fades in Japan; elderly hard-hit*

**RIKUZENTAKATA, Japan** (AP)—The elderly couple fled their home on foot as the warning sirens blared. But they could not keep up with their neighbors and fell behind as the tsunami rushed in.

Nearly a week later, 71-year-old Taeko Kanno and her husband are still missing.

"I think there is no hope," said Katsuo Maiya, Kanno's brother-in-law. "I can't find them. The only thing I can do is wait until the military collects their bodies."

As retrieving bodies increasingly becomes the focus of rescue crews in Japan's northeast, it's clear that Friday's earthquake and tsunami—believed to have killed more than 10,000—took their heaviest toll on the elderly in this rapidly aging nation, where nearly one in four people is over 65.

Many, unable to flee, perished. Survivors lost their daily medicines. Hospitals lost power and water. Sometimes, the consequences have been fatal.

Friday's twin disasters also crippled a nuclear power plant in the northeast, adding to the region's woes. Fourteen older patients died after being moved to a temporary shelter in a school gym because their hospital was in the evacuation zone near the overheating plant.

Two of the patients died in transit Monday and 12 more at the gym, said Chuei Inamura, a Fukushima government official. It took until Thursday to get all the remaining patients into other hospitals.

"We feel very helpless and very sorry for them," Inamura said. "The condition at the gymnasium was horrible. No running water, no medicine and very, very little food. We simply did not have the means to provide good care."

At least some international rescue teams ended their efforts Thursday, acknowledging there was little prospect left of finding missing people still alive.

"We have no more tasks," said Pete Stevenson, a firefighter heading Britain's 70-strong team. "The Japanese government have told us they are now moving from search and rescue to the recovery phase."

He insisted their departure wasn't related to any fears of radiation from the troubled Fukushima nuclear plant, which lies about 90 miles (150 kilometers) south.

Japan's relatively large elderly population presents a particular challenge for rescue and relief in what is already a disaster of epic proportions.

About 23 percent of Japan's 127 million people are age 65 or over, nearly double the proportion in the United States.

Japan's rural areas have been in decline for years, and many of the small coastal towns hit hardest by the tsunami had seen an exodus of young people moving to cities for work.

Now the low-lying parts of those towns have been flattened, and as much as half the population in some may have been killed. The official death toll climbed over 5,300 Thursday and is expected to top 10,000.

Kanno, the woman who couldn't keep up with her neighbors, comes from one such town - Rikuzentakata, a port city that was home to 20,000 before the disaster.

When the tsunami surged into Rikuzentakata, her 67-year-old sister Masako Maiya rushed down from her home in the hills with her husband, Katsuo.

They only got as far as a bridge. Down below, they saw the town had become a muddy inland sea.

# World

## UN authorizes 'all necessary measures' in Libya

**TOBRUK, Libya** (AP)—The U.N. Security Council on Thursday authorized "all necessary measures" to stop Moammar Gadhafi in Libya—including strikes by sea and air—hours after he vowed in harrowing terms to launch a final assault and crush the weeks-old rebellion against him.

The resolution, approved with the backing of the United States, France and Britain, imposed a no-fly zone over Libya and authorized force short of a ground offensive to protect its people from Gadhafi's forces.

The U.N. action bans all flights in Libyan airspace in order to protect civilians. While it was unclear how the West might proceed, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said earlier in the day that a no-fly zone would require bombing targets inside Libya, including some of its defense systems.

It was also unclear when any Western action would come. A British lawmaker said British forces could be mobilized as early as Thursday night. U.S. officials, speaking after a closed-door briefing in Congress, said they expected an attempt to ground Gadhafi's air force could begin by Sunday or Monday and would probably involve jet fighters, bombers and surveillance aircraft.

After deliberating for weeks over what to do about Gadhafi, the West acted with sudden speed as it became clear Gadhafi would attempt to finally put an end to the rebellion.

Gadhafi, calling in to Libyan television on Thursday, said his forces would "rescue" the people of Benghazi, the Mediterranean port city that has become the capital and staging ground for the opposition. For those who resist, Gadhafi said, there would be "no mercy or compassion."

"This is your happy day, we will destroy your enemies," he said, warning the people of Benghazi not to stand alongside the opposition. "Prepare for this moment to get rid of the traitors. Tomorrow we will show the world, to see if the city is one of traitors or heroes."

"Don't betray me, my beloved Benghazi," he said.

His ground forces were still about 80 miles south of the city on Thursday evening Libya time, so it was unclear whether they would move on the city as quickly as he suggested.

Speaking moments before in an interview with Portuguese television broadcast just before the vote at the U.N., Gadhafi pledged to respond harshly to U.N.-sponsored attacks. "If the world is crazy," he said, "we will be crazy, too."

At the U.N. headquarters in New York, the vote was 10-0. The United States, France and Britain had all pushed for speedy approval. "We had said all along that Gadhafi must go," said British Foreign Secretary William Hague. "It is necessary to take these measures to avoid greater bloodshed."

Five nations abstained, including Russia and China, which hold veto power on the council.

AP

Permanent representatives from the United Kingdom, Mark Lyall Grant, left, and the United States, Susan Rice, right, vote to approve a resolution that will impose a no-fly zone over Libya during a meeting of the United Nations Security Council at UN headquarters Thursday, March 17, 2011.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Bahrain crackdown widens; dissent comes from roofs

**SITRA, Bahrain** (AP)—The nighttime cries of dissent went out from the rooftops shortly after the text messages came through. For nearly 15 minutes, just as the messages exhorted, they called out to the sky: "God is Great!" as soldiers and police took hold of the streets below. In the capital, Manama, and in Shiite villages like Sitra, the hub of Bahrain's oil industry, Bahrain's crackdown on the monthlong uprising expanded, drawing the full fury of the Sunni monarchy and its Saudi-led allies, who see the Shiite demands for a say in running the country as a threat to the 200-year-old rule. Bahrain's royal family is gambling that it can survive the sectarian faultlines that splinter the kingdom and the region, with the help of a 1,500-strong force led by the Saudis to bolster a government that the Gulf's Sunni leaders—and the U.S.—see as a bulwark against Shiite Iran's expanding military ambitions.

#### Diplomats: Saudi king moving to head off protests

**CAIRO** (AP)—Saudi Arabia's monarch will announce a government reshuffle, an anti-corruption drive and a promise to increase food subsidies to combat rising prices in his first address to his nation since unrest began sweeping the Arab world, diplomats said Thursday. King Abdullah's speech is expected after midday Muslim prayers on Friday. The rare speech by the country's ailing 86-year-old monarch comes after a several small demonstrations in the oil-rich kingdom. Though only dozens of people have participated, it appears the monarchy is worried the protests could escalate into more intense gatherings, inspired by the unrest sweeping the Arab world.

# Maharlika

PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2011


# Time running out for 3 Pinoy drug mules in China

**CANDLELIGHT VIGIL** AP

Three children join elders as they offer flowers and candles with slogans to show their support for the people of Japan devastated by Friday's earthquake, tsunami and the nuclear power plant crisis, during a solidarity mass Thursday, March 17, 2011, in suburban Quezon City, north of Manila, Philippines. The activists also opposed the call of some sector in the country to revived the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant.

By JERRY E. ESPLANADA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Time has run out on three Filipino drug mules in China, and the Philippine government appears resigned to their impending execution.

Chinese Ambassador to the Philippines Liu Jianchao Thursday announced that a commutation of the death sentence on Ramon Credo, Sally Villanueva and Elizabeth Batain to life imprisonment had been "ruled out."

The three Filipinos were granted a rare reprieve last February on the representation of Vice President Jejomar Binay, raising hopes that their lives could be saved.

But in a press briefing at the Chinese Embassy in Makati City, Liu said: "The [death] penalty will be carried out sooner or later."

He said that per agreement between the two governments, the Philippines would be informed "about the actual way" and "when the penalty will be done" through "diplomatic channels."

In a chance interview in Malacañang, President Benigno Aquino III said he and Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario had been busy discussing and "preparing" for the plight of Filipinos caught in the civil unrest in the Middle East and in the nuclear crisis in Japan triggered by last week's earthquake and tsunami.

## Focus on all

"The three [Filipino drug convicts] are our concern, and so are the thousands in the Middle East and the thousands in Japan, and of course we have to be ready to meet these things all at the same time. I hope you understand that we can't focus on just one entity; we have to focus on all," Mr. Aquino said.

But he acknowledged that from the start, the government was told that the stay of execution of the three Filipinos was "temporary," and that "we have to conform to their laws."

Binay's office described Liu's announcement as "unfortunate."

The Vice President has yet to receive "official communication" on the matter from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), "but as long as the executions are not carried out, [he] remains hopeful," said his spokesperson, Joey Salgado.

But Del Rosario himself said "every effort has been made [by the Philippine government] to

*See TIME on Next Page*

# Behind the seams: Fashion Clicks grand opening

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fashion aficionados on Saipan have all the reasons to celebrate with the opening of the island's latest clothing boutique.

Fashion Clicks, which softly opened in November, held its grand opening yesterday at its Puerto Rico location.

Unlike your typical Saipan boutique, Fashion Clicks carries a wide array of quality and affordable clothing articles and accessories for men and women.

"Clothing options on Saipan are very limited," said Edward Calvo, executive vice president of Miona USA which owns Fashion Clicks. "The idea is to bring in new styles of clothes that have high quality and are affordable."

Calvo, who has years of fashion retail experience both on Saipan and Guam, said the concept for Fashion Clicks was an idea that they've had for quite a while to best complement his other business, Island Apparel.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

From left: Miona USA shareholder Mamuro Kadokura; executive vice president Edward Calvo; Fashion Clicks manager Michelle Zayco; award-winning Filipino actor Ricky Davao; and boutique staff Sherlie Dela Cruz.

"Now we finally had our grand opening. We're very excited and happy," he said.

Store manager Michelle Zayco said she is very pleased with the grand opening turnout as the store was well received by the community.

"The community's response was so overwhelming. We couldn't thank them enough," she said.

Drinks and hors d'oeuvres were served during yesterday's grand opening which was graced by popular Filipino actor Ricky Davao who was invited by his good friend Zayco.

"I'm thankful I got invited to visit Saipan again just for this grand opening," said Davao, who is on island for the second time.

The first time the award-winning actor was here was for the screening of the film Mga Pusang Gala (Stray Cats) in 2007 which raised funds for the Napu Life Foundation.

"Too bad it's just wrong timing because of my busy schedule in Manila," he said.

According to Davao, he will go around the island and visit attractions and places of interest today. He is scheduled to leave Saipan on Sunday.

"I hope that this business [Fashion Clicks] will prosper," he added.

Aside from clothing, Fashion Clicks also carries Miona beauty and health care products, including Sea Through Light, an all natural and safe probiotic dietary supplement which is No. 1 in Japan.

"Our Miona products guarantee customers with young, beautiful, healthy and prosperous life that will give happiness to people around the world. That's our theme," said Calvo.

According to him, Fashion Clicks patrons can look forward to more clothing styles in limited quantities, far lower prices compared to their competitors, and maintain their high standards of quality.

"We assure you that everything will always be fresh here at Fashion Clicks," he added.

# OFWs on Rota avail of consular services

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite last Friday's tsunami warning, the Philippine Consulate General proceeded with its scheduled mobile consular services on Rota on March 12 and 13.

The services were held from 8am to 5pm at the Northern Mariana College Rota campus.

The Consular team was composed of Consul General Medardo Macaraig, labor representative Carmelina Velasquez, Nerisa Anastacio, Rowena Tolosa, Antonio David, and Christopher Anastacio.

"The Consular team left Saipan last Friday evening and, just like the people of Rota, waited in the high grounds of Rota during the tsunami alert last [Friday]," said Macaraig.

Macaraig said the event was a success, with the number of Filipinos who availed of the mobile consular services was recorded at 142.

Of the 142, 75 were for ePassport applications, 42 for membership with Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, 11 for Overseas Employment Certificate applications, and 14 for notarial services.

With the completion of the mobile consular services on Rota, Macaraig said they have now served the three major islands in the CNMI with the new ePassport technology.

"The request of Filipinos for more consular services in Tinian and Rota shall be considered by the Philippine Consulate General in planning its future activities," he said.

Macaraig extended its appreciation to Mayor and Mrs. Melchor Mendiola, NMC Rota, the Filipino community of Rota led by Alejandro Badiles and Fr. Delfin Tumaca, the Parish Pastoral Council of San Francisco De Borja Church, and all Filipinos and friends who have made the services a success.

# Filipinos in Japan 'not balikbayan boxes'

By JERRY E. ESPLANADA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Saying Filipinos who want to leave Japan are "not balikbayan boxes," militant groups Thursday assailed President Benigno Aquino III's plan to use its one and only C-130 plane to fly them home.

Renato Reyes Jr., secretary general of Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) said, "surely, the Aquino administration can do better."

"It can get chartered flights from Philippine Airlines and Cebu Pacific to help Filipinos in Fukushima evacuate. Isn't a C-130 a cargo plane? Are they planning to fly Filipinos out of Japan like balikbayan boxes?" Reyes told the Inquirer.

"The Palace statement that Filipinos who have no means can just ride the C-130 of the Air Force is definitely not enough."

He said the government "should exert its best efforts and should have a concrete plan."

"It should also allocate emergency funds for the repatriation of Filipinos from Japan. The funds should also include provisions for food and relief goods since they are also in short supply for Filipinos there," he asserted.

AP

A girl embraces a Filipino relative as she arrives from Tokyo at Manila's International Airport, Philippines on Sunday, March 13, 2011. A Philippine Embassy team in Tokyo joined a convoy also composed of diplomats from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand to check the condition on Sunday of about 4,500 Filipinos in Japan's quake-devastated northeast region, Filipino officials said.

### Millions for DFA travel

John Leonard Monterona, regional coordinator of the Riyadh-based Migrante-Middle East, wondered if the government was bankrupt.

Migrante and its affiliate organizations worldwide have expressed outrage over the claim of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) that it has no funds for the repatriation of Filipinos fleeing Japan.

The DFA has apparently forgotten that Filipinos in Japan, who number 305,000, send over $880 million a year in remittances to the Philippines, Monterona said.

### Embassy team blasted

A group of Filipinos students in Sendai, one of the areas hardest-hit by the March 11 quake and tsunami, expressed "deep rage and great disappointment" over the slow and inefficient team sent to the area by the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo.

"The first team from our embassy arrived here on the night of March 13, the time when other foreign nationals were starting to evacuate from Sendai," the group said in an e-mail.

"The team came to Sendai without a concrete contingency plan."

Clearly, members of the team were "not only unprepared, they also lacked the necessary skills" to handle an evacuation program, the students said.

"We demand a sense of urgency from our government. We demand that the government exhaust all means to surpass the incompetent actions of the Philippine contingent here in Japan. Act now!" they said.

### Oust Lopez call

Nestor Puno, Migrante-Japan spokesperson, called for the immediate recall and replacement of Philippine Ambassador to Tokyo Manuel Lopez.

Lopez has angered Filipinos in Japan for proposing the evacuation of embassy personnel and their dependents, Puno said.

Lopez has denied he requested evacuation for his staff.

# UFO induction moved to April 2

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The induction of the newly elected officers of the United Filipino Organization, the umbrella organization of some 30 Filipino groups in the CNMI, has been moved to April 2 from its original schedule on March 19.

"Because a lot of people will not be available on March 19, we decided to reschedule the event," incoming president Bong Malasarte told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Malasarte, even Consul General Medardo Macaraig who will serve as the inducting officer will not be available on that date.

Malasarte said the induction will be at 6pm at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort in Susupe.

Other newly elected officers to be inducted are Hector Sevilla, VP-administration; Paul Madriaga, VP-internal; Bok Enano, VP-external; Jun Liberato, secretary; Yolanda de Ramos, assistant secretary; Evelyn Deazeta, treasurer; Lyn Dela Cruz, assistant treasurer; Antonio Soriano, auditor; and Charlie Centena, PRO-internal.

For information, contact Malasarte at 287-5525 or e-mail at bong@malasarte.com.

# Pentecostal medical mission in Garapan on March 20

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ 4th Watch will conduct its monthly Village-to-Village Medical Mission tomorrow from 4pm to 7pm at the Garapan basketball court.

"This is in line with our efforts to reach out to more members of the community by going from one village to another," church spokesperson Ronnie Doca told *Saipan Tribune*.

Last Feb. 20, the Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ 4th Watch held a successful medical mission at the Tanapag basketball court where over 70 residents of As Matuis, Tanapag, and San Roque availed of the free services.

According to Doca, a lot of residents are occupied with their jobs and household chores that they do not have the time or resources to spare for health services.

"Since they're busy, we will bring the medical mission to them. Not only do we want to provide for their spiritual needs but take care of their physical or health needs as well," said Doca.

Doca said the free services to be offered during the medical mission include screening for blood sugar and blood pressure, reflexology, physical therapy, eye screening, facial massage, and haircut which will be conducted by volunteers.

He said there will also be free health care products to be given away on Sunday.

For inquiries, call Pastor Claire Javillonar at 235-1656 or text 789-7566.

## TIME

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appeal for clemency."

"The Chinese have their rule of law to follow," he told reporters. "I don't know what other initiatives we can undertake."

### Deterrent

The Philippine government had been seeking a commutation of the death sentence on the three Filipinos.

But Ambassador Liu said they "must be punished."

"The purpose is not to take the lives of these people. It is to deter and curb [drug-related] crimes," he said.

Credo, 42, and a father of five children, was arrested on Dec. 28, 2008, at Gaoji International Airport in Xiamen after getting off a China Southern Airlines flight from Manila.

A total of 4,113 grams of heroin was found in his luggage and he was formally charged with drug smuggling on Jan. 21, 2009.

Credo is being held at Xiamen No. 1 Detention House, as is Villanueva, 32.

Villanueva, the mother of two, was apprehended on Dec. 24, 2008, also at Gaoji International Airport in Xiamen, after arriving on a China Southern Airlines flight from Manila.

She was found with 4,410 grams of heroin in her suitcase. Villanueva was formally charged with drug smuggling on Jan. 23, 2009.

Batain, 38, was arrested on May 25, 2008, at the Shenzhen airport after disembarking from an Asiana Airlines flight from Kuala Lumpur.

A total of 6,800 grams of heroin was found "sealed inside two reams of bond paper inside her luggage."

### According to law

Batain was formally charged with drug trafficking on June 30, 2009. She is being held at Shenzhen No. 3 Detention House.

"The situation is really bad," Ambassador Liu said, adding that the increase in the number of drug-related crimes in China between 2007 and 2010 had been "tremendous."

"And that makes it more a necessity that these crimes be curbed and deterred," he said. "Laws must be applied."

Asked why the Chinese government had earlier agreed to defer the execution of the three Filipinos, Liu said the reprieve was done "in accordance to law."

"We cannot do anything that is beyond the law," he said.

Assistant Foreign Secretary J. Eduardo Malaya, the DFA spokesperson, said Thursday night that as conveyed by the Chinese government to Binay on Feb. 18, "the execution of the three Filipinos was postponed within the scope of Chinese law."

Earlier in a statement, the Chinese Embassy said that according to Chinese law, "any person, no matter if he or she is a Chinese citizen or a foreigner, who commits crime shall be brought to justice."

"No one is privileged to transcend the law. Drug-related crimes, which are doing appalling harm to our societies, have been universally recognized as a scourge by the whole world. [Illegal] drugs are bitterly detested by the international community, China and the Philippines included," it said.

The Chinese Embassy also said the three Filipinos' "legitimate rights and interests have been protected in accordance with law. The Chinese side will render their relatives assistance and facilitation as necessary to visit the inmates in China."

### To lodge appeal

At a news briefing in Malacañang, Mr. Aquino's spokesperson Edwin Lacierda expressed sadness over China's decision to proceed with the executions.

Lacierda told reporters that the Palace might "try" to lodge an appeal.

"But we have to respect the decision of Chinese authorities on the matter. It was unprecedented that they granted us a stay, and this was the first time they did it for an ally," he said, adding:

"It was very, very clear that it was only a postponement."

He also said the DFA would explain the latest development to the families of the three convicts.

Asked if the President would still push through with his state visit to China scheduled in May, Lacierda only confirmed that there were such plans.

He said the final details would have to be announced by the DFA or the Chinese foreign ministry. With a report from Christine O. Avendaño

# Banco Filipino placed on receivership by PDIC

By MICHELLE REMO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Three days after going into a bank holiday and failing to service withdrawals of clients, Banco Filipino Savings and Mortgage Bank (BF) was finally placed under receivership of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC) on Thursday.

In a meeting on Thursday, the Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas decided to place BF under receivership, saying the thrift bank has proven to be unable to rescue itself from its financial woes.

"The MB [Monetary Board] took note of the failure of the board of directors/management of BF to restore the bank's financial health and viability despite considerable time given to address its financial problems, and after according the requisite due process," the BSP said in a statement read by deputy governor Nestor Espenilla Jr. in a press conference.

In the press conference, Espenilla, head of the BSP's bank supervision division, said that BF has been losing since 2002, and that its losses averaged at P2 billion year since 2007. He said that in the last nine months, losses of BF has been averaging P277 million.

Moreover, he said, the liabilities of BF have far outweighed its liquid assets. The net realizable assets of BF has been standing at negative P8.4 billion, he said.

Espenilla said the BSP actually granted BF an emergency loan in 2002 worth P3.5 billion. Espenilla said that of the amount, P2.6 billion has remained unpaid.

The BSP executive said it has been the policy of the central bank to help an ailing bank recuperate from financial distress before placing it under receivership, noting that such a move has been consistent with the objective of helping maintain stability of the entire banking system.

Amid its bank holiday, BF was asking the BSP for another emergency loan, this time worth P3 billion, to help it from its financial distress. However, the BSP decided not to grant the emergency loan given its insolvency.

Due to its insolvency and the opinion of the Monetary Board that BF had no capacity to restore its financial health and pay the loan, the BSP's MB decided not to grant the loan. Espenilla said that for a bank to be granted an emergency loan, such a loan should be approved by at least five of the seven members of the Monetary Board.

Espenilla said BF did not get the required number of votes to get the emergency loan, but declined to be more specific about the exact figure.

"In deciding to place BF under receivership, the MB took the following into consideration: BF is unable to pay its liabilities as they become due in the ordinary course of business; BF has insufficient realizable assets to meet its liabilities; BF cannot continue in business without involving probable losses to its depositors and creditors," the BSP said in its statement.

Espenilla said the BSP has also found BF engaging in unsound banking practices.

BF was offering deposit interest rates that were much higher than market average, thus further placing its financial condition at risk. He said BF was offering deposit interest rates of between 6.5 and 14 percent compared with the market average of 1 to 2 percent.

Moreover, he said Banco Filipino has also engaged in unsound lending practices. Of the P4.1 billion worth of outstanding loans it has extended, at least half were lent to entities related to officers and owners of the bank.

When a bank is placed under the receivership, all of the bank's remaining assets and outstanding liabilities shall be taken over by PDIC. PDIC is also responsible for paying deposit claims of clients of the bank.

Under the charter of PDIC, it is mandated to pay valid deposit claims of up to P500,000 per depositor.

In a separate statement, PDIC has assured the depositors of BF that valid deposit claims would be paid and that it would complete the processing of claims as soon as possible.

"PDIC President Jose Nograles has directed the mobilization of the entire organization to fast-track the payment of deposit insurance," PDIC said in the statement.

Data from the central bank showed that BF has 177,652 depositors with total deposits of P15 billion.

Furthermore, 97 percent of the depositors have deposits of P500,000 and below and are thus covered by deposit insurance.

Elmore Capule, deputy general counsel of the BSP, said in the same press conference that deposits in excess of P500,000 might be recovered, but hinted that such a probability would be small.

Once a bank is placed under receivership and proven to be incapable of being rehabilitated, PDIC sells its assets and proceeds are distributed among creditors and other people or entities that have claims against the bank, according to PDIC.

He said deposits in excess of P500,000 would be paid if other liabilities, such as obligations to creditors, were paid.

# Top direct-selling firm arrives in PH

By TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—The popularity of the direct selling business, its young and growing population as well as bright economic growth prospects have combined to make Stanhome World, the top direct selling home-care brand in Europe, decide to launch its expansion to Asia, starting with the Philippines.

German Martinez, Stanhome World International director general and chief executive officer, told the Inquirer during his recent visit to the country that the plan is to first establish a major presence in the Philippines then move to other countries in Southeast Asia within the next five years.

Martinez said the France-based direct selling company, which is owned by Groupe Yves Rocher—one of the top beauty companies in the world—considered the Philippines the ideal market from which to start its Asian expansion because there are many Filipinos looking to earn extra cash and there is widespread acceptance of the direct selling business model.

Martinez said that he realizes that there are many other direct selling companies in the Philippines offering similar products, but he believes there is more than enough space in the market for Stanhome's unique line of personal and home-care products that is backed by the expertise of Groupe Yves Rocher.

Stanhome started in the United States during the Great Depression and Groupe Yves Rocher took over 12 years ago. The commitment to producing high-quality goods has remained.

"Our international direct selling company is committed to high quality home care, family care and beauty care solutions. We have earned the trust of millions of women and mothers in Europe. We intend to do the same in the Philippines and in Asia," he said.

Stanhome, which got television personality Carmina Villaroel as product endorser, will start off with some 300 products for cleaning and freshening up homes; protecting family health and wellness and enhancing beauty.

Stanhome has also decided to invest in an intimate apparel line exclusively for the Philippines. And if sales come in as expected, there are plans to introduce the products in other markets with the Philippines as a main source.

Aside from Stanhome products, Stanhome World will also bring to the Philippines Kiotis, a French cosmetic brand based on essential oils developed by Jacques Rocher, the youngest son of Yves Rocher.

The company kicked off operations last February 28 with the opening of three service centers in Metro Manila and one in Cagayan de Oro. Novaliches and Davao will soon open.

It won't be long before other service centers are added to the list, making it easier for direct sellers—most of whom are women—to earn a good income, thanks to Stanhome.

**BARGAIN HUNT** AP

A Filipino Muslim shoe vendor shouts to attract costumers at her makeshift store in suburban Manila, Philippines on Thursday March 10, 2011. Many Filipinos hunt bargains and cheaper goods to cope with the continued rise of prices on basic commodities.

# Remittances, 'hot money' up

## Net portfolio investments hit $534M in February

By MICHELLE REMO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**MANILA, Philippines**—Remittances from Filipinos based in the United States and Europe, as well as foreign portfolio investments, grew at a rapid pace early in the year, raising hopes that foreign currency inflows into the country will remain strong in 2011 despite negative developments abroad.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reported Thursday that the net inflow of foreign portfolio investments reached $534 million in February, rising by nearly three times from the $138.58 million recorded in the same month last year.

This brought the net inflow of "hot money" in the first two months to $754.5 million, up by 144 percent from the level recorded in the same period last year.

BSP officials said the significant increase in foreign portfolio investments as of February improved the country's ability to meet external liabilities.

Foreign portfolio investments mostly come in the form of placements in the country's stock market and bond purchases.

Officials said the growth in "hot money" inflows proved the improving confidence of foreign portfolio investors in the Philippine economy, at least for the short term.

Meanwhile, the BSP also reported that remittances from Filipinos based in the United States and Europe grew at a faster-than-anticipated pace in January.

Remittances are a closely watched economic indicator as these largely fuel consumption of Filipino households.

Data from the BSP showed that remittances from US-based Filipinos reached $526.16 million, up by 8.5 percent year on year.

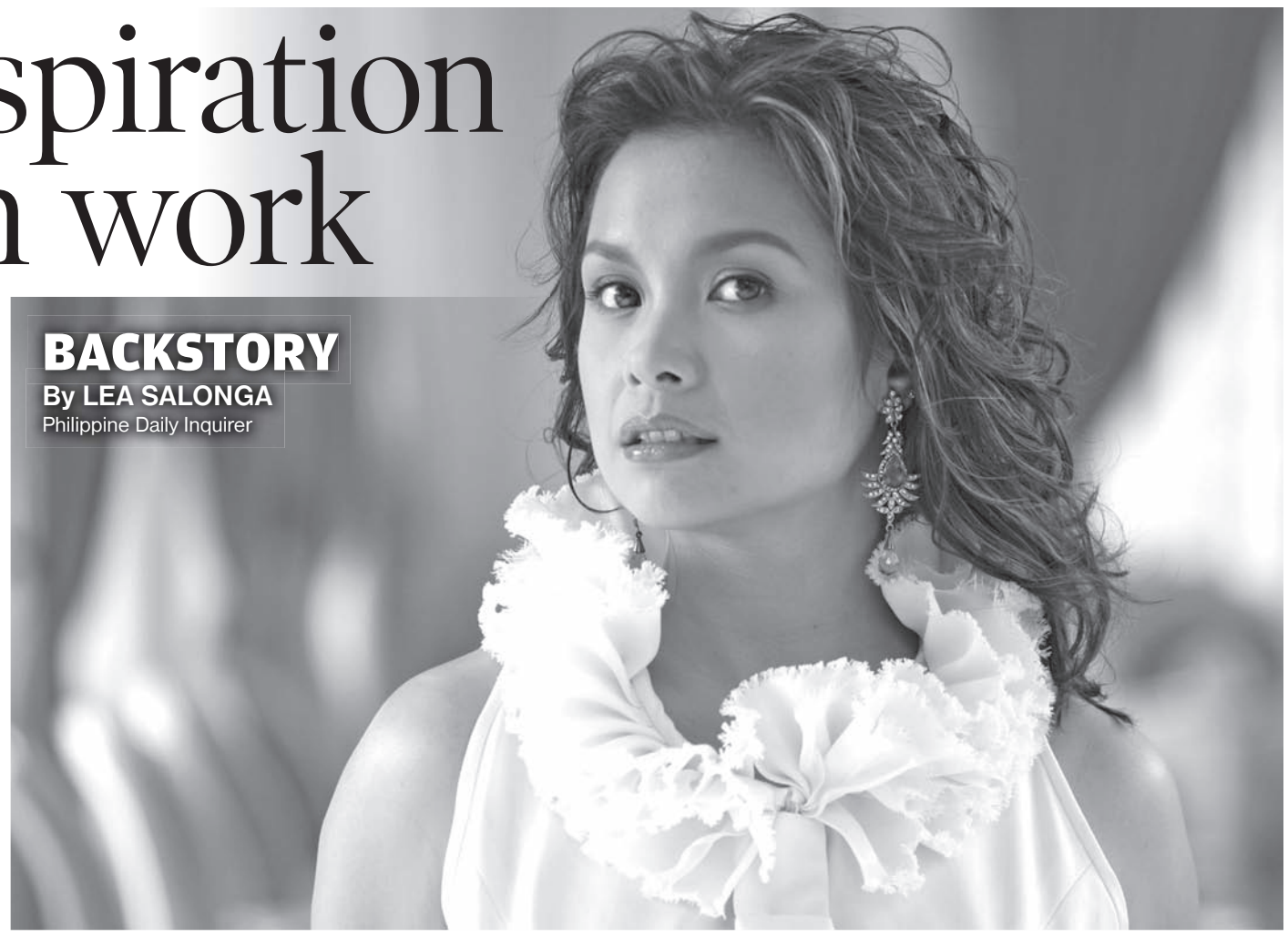
The amount accounted for 35 percent of the total remittances of $1.48 billion for the month.

Meanwhile, remittances from Filipinos based in Europe reached $276 million in January, rising by 9.3 percent year on year.

Economic managers are optimistic that remittances will continue to rise this year despite the ill effects of the political turmoil in the Middle East and the twin disasters in Japan.

# Maharlika – PinoyStyle

# Finding inspiration in between work



**BACKSTORY**
By LEA SALONGA
Philippine Daily Inquirer

I'm always looking for ways to reinvigorate myself when I'm on a performing spree. As I write, I'm in Southern California, getting ready to start hopping on tour stops until March 19. True, it isn't a long touring period, and with planes, cars and hotels, each stop will feel like a blur.

Before I continue, here's my remaining schedule, in case you happen to be in town and would like to catch my show: Today at McPhillips Street Station, Winnipeg, Manitoba; and March 19 at Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, IN.

My musical director here in the United States, Larry Yurman, and I got together before this little tour began, to figure out set lists for the performances (including for the Broad, which was going to be just piano and voice).

I was thankful for the few days' break, as it allowed me to sit back and open my mind and heart to the world and discover sources of inspiration. I watched a couple of programs that my Aunt Marilynn recorded as part of PBS' "Great Performances" series: "David Foster and Friends" and the "Les Miserables 25th Anniversary Concert."

It was such a thrill to see Charice belt "All By Myself" to a crowd on its feet, admiring her talent; to see Ne-Yo's fleeting feet and coolness factor; and the legendary Donna Summer singing "Last Dance."

As for "Les Miz," although I was a part of the show, seeing it on screen still sends me into orbit. Listening to Chris Jahnke's incredible orchestrations, Alfie Boe's "Bring Him Home," Ramin Karimloo's razor-sharp vocal quality and the Tricolore choir swaying side to side with "Master of the House" brought back a lot of great memories.

At the rehearsal for The Broad Stage concert, I was walking around on stage, singing along while Larry played. I could feel a sense of elation and glee rise within me. Perhaps this was the great inspiration of all, the knowledge that this was what I was put on earth to do.

### Rest in peace

An old childhood friend passed away not too long ago. His name was Herman Atienza. We were classmates in OB Montessori from the first grade and remained so for a few years.

A few months ago, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, one of the deadliest forms of the disease. I had communicated to his sister Lin that I wanted to visit him and catch up on old times (I bumped into him randomly in Manila a couple of years back, but that brief encounter lasted only a few minutes). It was a visit he and I had looked forward to, but alas, it wasn't meant to be.

On March 1, Herman breathed his last. I went to the wake and spent time with Lin, listening as she spoke about the kind of man Herman turned out to be. He was very well-traveled, loved children (although he never had any of his own) and loved his friends.

There was a constant stream of people coming to visit and pay their last respects. It was great knowing that his life was happy and full.

Rest in peace, Herman.

# 2 new TV5 recruits, if all goes well

Could it be true that GMA 7 star comedian Michael V and veteran ABS-CBN newsman Henry Omaga Diaz are soon moving to TV5? If plans don't miscarry, they will be the next Kapuso and Kapamilya to turn Kapatid. KKK could now mean Kabigla-biglang, Kamanghamanghang Kambiyuhan to refer to the Network Revolution.

### Cesar Montano, concerned father

Funny how some people insinuate that Cesar Montano is not giving enough financial support to Diego, his love child with Teresa Loyzaga. And that this was the reason his mom prodded him to join show biz.

**DOLLYWOOD**
By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

"Diego stays with me and I send him to school," Buboy told me. "But now that his mom is here on vacation from Australia, he spends time with her, too."

Does he approve of Diego following in his footsteps? "I want him to finish high school in O.B. Montessori with good grades," the concerned father pointed out. "Mas gusto ko sana mag-focus muna siya sa studies niya, but since he also wants to try show biz, he has my full support."

I teased Buboy: "With Diego's charms, it seems he can beat your track record with women."

Buboy laughed out loud and said, "Mukha nga. He will soon dethrone me!" But beneath that flippant tone, I know there's a tinge of sadness because Diego somehow reminds Buboy of his late son, Angelo. Although his two sons (and four daughters) don't have the same mothers, Buboy loves them all equally.

### Heart-to-heart talks

I spent time with Pia Magalona on the eve of her beloved Francis M's second death anniversary recently.

What did she miss most about him? "The long heart-to-heart talks," she sighed. "Teamwork kami in everything. We were together for 25 years. Every single day yun ha, magkasama kami."

Was she ready to love again? "Let's just say we all need inspiration. But in my heart it will always be Franz." Pia will forever be wrapped in the love and memory of the Master Rapper.

### Birthday toast

Juris' latest hit, "Di Lang Ikaw," was my anthem when I was nursing a broken heart. I'm excited to watch her sing it live on her birthday concert on March 19, 8 p.m. at the Music Museum.

It also marks her first anniversary as a solo artist since she left MYMP. Singers as awesome as Juris are truly born, not made. And for that, she deserves a big birthday toast!

For feedback, e-mail wateringholeshangrila@yahoo.com

**TAKE FIVE**

# What Richard said that made Lucy cry

By MARINEL CRUZ
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

A little more time and they will patch things up, says Richard Gomez on the recent, highly publicized spat between friends Willie Revillame and John Estrada.

Richard recalled that he tried to mediate between the two buddies, but backed off when they resisted his efforts.

In the game show "Willing Willie," the visibly upset controversial host told a live audience that John and another friend, Randy Santiago, would be hosting a noontime show on ABS-CBN, even when he's been negotiating for them to have one on TV5.

Richard had to stand in for Willie who refused to be John's best man in the latter's wedding to Brazilian model Priscilla Meirelles last week. "I asked Willie if he'd come to the wedding and he replied with a curt 'no,' so I didn't push the issue anymore," Richard told *Inquirer Entertainment* during the launch of the drama series on TV5, "Ang Nagbabagang Bulaklak."

He also talked about life with wife Lucy Torres and daughter Juliana.

Gomez

Did Lucy ever feel bad that you persuaded her to run for Congress? She had repeatedly said she didn't want to be involved in politics.

Lucy (who is now Leyte's 4th District Representative) actually felt sad for me because she knew how hard I worked during the campaign. When I got disqualified, I told her, "Don't cry, ikaw ang papalit sa akin." She cried even more.

What do you think of her as a congresswoman?

She's very persistent. I'm impressed that as a first-termer, she is already an assistant majority leader. She goes to different government offices to solicit funds. She looks for livelihood projects that she could bring to her district. We're discussing recently that she might run for another term.

Building classrooms in the province is her pet project. Each classroom costs around P750,000. From the time she assumed office, she has already built over 20. She is so dedicated.

Do you still have time for your daughter Juliana?

She goes directly to Congress after school. That's where she does her homework. If there are visitors, Juliana sometimes makes coffee for them.

Don't you have plans of having another child?

We've tried everything but Lucy just won't get pregnant. I wish that when she does, twins na agad. I'm open to trying other ways of making a baby, like in vitro fertilization, but Lucy doesn't want to. Her belief is that if you discard a fertilized egg, you're already killing life. She's a Catholic through and through. She doesn't favor the RH (Reproductive Health) Bill. But she said that if the bill would be modified, OK na sa kanya.

What's Lucy like when she's angry?

She hardly ever does. She doesn't even know how to scream. We have disagreements, too. We very seldom argue. We'll be celebrating our 13th anniversary in April.

"Ang Nagbabagang Bulaklak," which premieres on March 21, also features Ruffa Gutierrez, Phillip Salvador, Sheryl Cruz, Carla Humphries and Valerie Concepcion.

*E-mail mcruz@inquirer.com.ph*

# Maharlika – Opinyon

## What rush?

It is simply not correct to say that the impeachment case against Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez is being rushed. Even if we use as frame of reference the period that began when the Supreme Court rejected Gutierrez's petition for certiorari and prohibition, on Feb. 15, we cannot say that the process was compromised by a congressional rush to judgment.

In the first place, the notion that the committee on justice of the House of Representatives should have waited for the Court to rule on the matter with finality is at best a legal interpretation with political implications. But the committee's decision to proceed anyway (taken, we must emphasize the point for the benefit of those who did not follow the process closely, only after intense discussion at the committee level) is also a legal interpretation, also with political consequences—but it is a legal interpretation based on more solid ground (the interlocutory order to restrain Congress was lifted by a similar interlocutory order with similarly immediate effect), with political implications more advantageous to the public interest. Waiting for the Court to reject Gutierrez's petition with finality would have cut into the 60 session days prescribed by the Constitution for the committee to take action.

As it is, when the Court rejected Gutierrez's petition (she alleged that the impeachment complaints against her were "capricious and whimsical") with finality, it did not cite the committee for proceeding as it did. In other words, the notion that the committee should have waited for the final Court ruling was altogether ignored.

But why frame the discussion according to the day the Court lifted its controversial status quo ante order against the committee? That would benefit only the allies of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who insist on the rush-to-judgment narrative.

The committee found the impeachment complaints filed against Gutierrez in July and then in August last year sufficient in substance only on Sept. 7. Then the Supreme Court, acting on the Gutierrez petition, stopped impeachment proceedings on Sept. 14. From that day until Feb. 15, or a total of five months, the committee did nothing. Where, we ask, is the unseemly haste that critics of Gutierrez's looming impeachment allege?

The truth is, the steady, orderly process we have all seen on television and followed online since last month, in which the justice committee patiently dealt with the insufferable delaying tactics of the Arroyo minority, insisted on following procedures by the book and finally reached overwhelming majorities on the crucial votes, only looks speedy when contrasted with the deliberate sluggishness of the ombudsman's own record.

That, ultimately, is what the impeachment process is all about: the pathetic record of an ombudsman who failed to act in the interests of justice in several high-profile corruption cases. If this were the frame of reference to be used, then Gutierrez's looming impeachment is actually very late, coming as it does years after the bungling of the Mega Pacific contract, the inaction on the fertilizer scam, the indifference to the NBN-ZTE deal.

The cobbling together of the new majority in Congress, exactly like President Aquino's own presidential campaign, is based on a simple promise: That the corruption of the Arroyo years must be investigated and stopped, and the corrupt held to account. The new majority took control in July last year, how can they be accused of rushing to judgment in the case of Gutierrez when the new justice committee took several weeks to begin the impeachment process, waited five months while the Supreme Court studied the issue, then conducted reasonably paced hearings (twice or thrice a week) that were open in the minutest detail to the public, heard out both Gutierrez's side and the presentation of evidence of the complainants, before holding a vote?

Even the issue of evidence has been misinterpreted or misanalyzed. The task before the justice committee is roughly equivalent to that of a prosecutor: to find probable cause. The notion that the evidence must be vetted as though at a trial is mistaken. The impeachment process in the Senate is the trial.

Congress has yet to vote on the justice committee's recommendations in plenary. An impeachment, however, seems likely. That is not proof of a rush to judgment, but a sign that the members of the new majority are listening to the people who sent them to Congress in the first place.

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## Scarier

There's The Rub
By CONRADO DE QUIROS
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

The first thing I found scarier than the earthquake itself, or even the devastation it wrought, was how we reacted to it.

I didn't know whether to laugh or cry when I read about how local drug stores made a killing in Betadine from people rushing to buy it. Even drug store employees themselves apparently bought some, "just to be sure," as one of them put it. The panic-buying was caused by a text message, presumably based on a BBC report, that said there would be radiation fallout from the explosions in Japan's nuclear facilities which would reach countries like the Philippines. Applying Betadine on the throat would help fight it off.

Well, first off, I don't know that you can stop hoaxes by prescribing penalties for it, however your sense of oppression makes it tempting. Finding the source is next to impossible. This is a country that can spread text messages with the speed of gossip, and the reliability of one. You can only appeal to the pranksters to rediscover some decency and stop being a nuisance if they cannot be a help. At the very least, it shows callousness in the face of tragedy, a capacity to make light of other people's sufferings. At the very most, it does a lot of harm: You never know what a panicked people can do, especially Filipinos.

Our levels of gullibility are particularly high in that respect. You have only to remember how we too started using gauze masks after Americans did in the wake of 9/11 with the anthrax scare. That one you can indict the Bush administration for, the systematic manufacturing of paranoia to gain support for the subsequent invasion of Iraq. If we can buy the notion that the world's terrorists can spread poison in our air—as though we aren't already doing quite a good job of it by ourselves, just look at Metro Manila's smog—we can buy the notion that Japan's nuclear irradiated air can blow all the way down to us.

The way we rush willy-nilly in the face of gossip, indeed the way some of us even think to push gallows humor to deathly lengths, I am profoundly thankful we never went nuclear despite the power outages we have experienced again and again, despite the power crisis that has loomed before us again and again. I am profoundly thankful the Westinghouse plant has been mothballed, though I still think we ought to make the Marcoses pay for that. Nuclear power is a power that can be as much a source of wholesale destruction as it can be a source of wholesale construction. It can as much scorch a country's earth beyond its darkest nightmare as meet its energy needs beyond its wildest dreams.

It is power that may be reposed only in the hands of the most capable governments, in the hands of the most disciplined people. Can you imagine the current nuclear crisis in Japan happening in a country other than Japan? As I write this, a third explosion has already rocked another nuclear plant, and radiation is leaking from Fukushima Dai-ichi's four reactors, which the prime minister himself has said could "impact on human health." Some 140,000 people have been told to stay indoors as Japan faces its worst nuclear catastrophe ever. You can see the fear and anxiety in the faces of the citizens. The only reason the world isn't being filled with dire apocalyptic warnings is that somehow it believes the Japanese government and people will see their way through it.

Can you imagine even a minor version of that happening here? The human disaster would be worse than the natural one.

The second thing I find scarier than the earthquake itself, or even the devastation it has left behind, is how the world has reacted to it.

So far most of the reports I have read have depicted the earthquake and tsunami it spawned as though it were just one of the natural disasters that befall humankind every now and then. Unfortunate, but they happen. I know you have to exercise every care and responsibility in treating events like this: Nothing is accomplished by wild doomsday theories that just panic the world. But I don't know why we can't also stop to take a serious view about the state of the planet.

Earthquakes do happen. But when they happen with the frequency and ferocity that they have been happening over the last decade, then it is time to look more deeply at what is causing them. When they happen moreover along with hurricanes and tornadoes across the United States, killer floods in India and China, droughts and frost where they have not happened before, then it is time to wonder if we have not pushed this planet to dire extremity.

Yes, we. The last time I looked at the global warming controversy, those opposed to the theory that it is being caused by carbon emissions were saying that, yes, we are on the brink of global warming, if we have not already slid into it, but it is not man-made, or not entirely so, it is something that happens to this planet every several epochs. Certainly, the contribution of carbon emissions to it is minimal. All we can do is mitigate its effects while still allowing countries to continue to produce at the scale that they do using the cheapest—and dirtiest—means to do so. The survival of the world's populations depends on it.

## Death in the time of cholera (1882)

Looking Back
By AMBETH OCAMPO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

PAGASA is a wonderful acronym for the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration. Its acronym sounds even better than its mother agency, the Department of Science and Technology or DOST. I am wishing aloud that Pagasa will keep and organize its records not only for scientific reference but for a historian who will trace calamities of the past and the way people responded.

In 1865, long before Pagasa was established and became the official source of weather information in the country, a Jesuit named Federico Faura started observing the weather from the chicken coup of the Ateneo Municipal in Intramuros that later evolved into the world-famous Manila Observatory. Now you know after whom the famous Ermita street, Padre Faura, is named.

The Jesuits began issuing typhoon warnings in 1879 and started observing earthquakes in 1880. By royal decree the observatory was made the official weather forecasting agency of Spanish Philippines in 1884. Then in 1901, during the American period, the observatory became the Philippine Weather Bureau. Today although it is no longer the official agency, the observatory continues its research work, and its engaging website is full of information, including live satellite pictures, streaming weather and temperature conditions, etc.

From articles in the pre-war Philippine Magazine on historical earthquakes and typhoons, I guess the observatory has records or reference s to various calamities down to the 16th century. Has the Philippines ever experienced destruction from tsunami in the past on a scale like the recent ones in Japan or Aceh?

We have late 19th century photographs of the Philippines showing the ruins of Manila after earthquakes. We also have photos and paintings of late 19th and early 20th century floods and flooding. But what was disaster like in Rizal's time?

In July 1880 Paciano wrote his younger brother, who was then a student in Manila, to confirm a flood warning issued by the observatory. If a flood was indeed coming, Paciano advised Rizal to return home to Calamba.

Rizal's correspondence with his family is full of personal detail. He complains about the amount of his allowance or its irregular remittance. There was no "Pera-Padala" or international automatic teller machines (ATMs) in those days. He lost money on bank drafts for exchange rates and commissions. In these chatty letters, Rizal leaves us with the impressions of a colonial subject in the Mother Country, while his family provides us with news from the Philippines. Rizal's family details rain, typhoons and floods that varied from knee-deep to neck-deep, sugar in bodegas washed away, rice fields laid to waste.

There are matter-of-fact references to earthquakes, too, but they do not become notable unless someone they know becomes a casualty.

Cholera passed like the Angel of Death over the Philippines in 1882, but unlike the biblical angel who only took first-born sons in homes unmarked with the blood of a lamb, cholera did not discriminate between men or women, rich or poor, young or old, good or bad. Cholera was not repelled by Palm Sunday fronds on doorways, or images of San Roque, invoked against pestilence.

Silvestre Ubaldo, Rizal's brother-in-law, was a telegraph operator based in Bulacan who was up-to-date with the news. He summarized everything in his letter of October 1882:

"[Cholera] is the prevailing sickness in Manila that is causing much hardship since 20 August. It began in San Nicolás, spread to Tondo, and in those towns from 30 to 40 people died daily, four or five dying in one house alone. Those who brought this disease were two crewmen of the steamer Eolus from Zamboanga where there was an epidemic. When the crewmen went ashore at San Nicolás, they were spitting in a small house. The next day all the occupants of that house, as well as the crewmen, died.

"In accordance with the decision of sanitary boards the house was ordered burned. From that time, the epidemic spread to the whole of Manila, but there not as many people died as in San Nicolás and Tondo. Then it reached Bulacan. At this capital there are deaths daily—as many as 25. Even Muñiz, the prosecuting attorney here, caught it at 3 o'clock in the morning and by noon he was dead. Baliuag, Guingua and Malolos are the hardest hit here. In each of these towns, about 30 die daily.

"This epidemic spread almost all over the Philippines so that the [Governor] General ordered many flannel blankets, as well as medicine, in Hong Kong and sent them to the provinces for the sick. Almost every day, the General goes around the public markets in Manila and orders spoiled fruits, meat or fish to be thrown away.

"Every town has a hospital where the sick are gathered. All the dead, even Spaniards, whoever they may be, are not taken to church anymore but are immediately taken to the mountain without fees. The officers of justice go around the town, ordering the cleaning and taking away of the dead immediately. They have their own cart and stretcher, the cart for the dead, and the stretcher for the sick. However, if the family refuses to give up the body they leave it alone, but they order the dead, even the sick, to be brought down and they are not put in coffins..."

# Maharlika – Samu't Sari

**COOL STAFF**

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Cool Steam Car Wash staff Tyron Soriano, Glo Mangundayao, and Angelo Bautista take a break from work and smile for the camera.

**ONLINE DEGREE**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

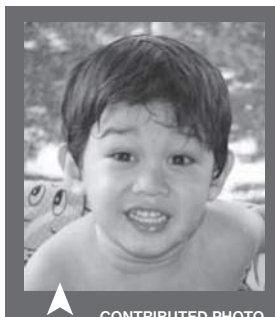
Michelle A. Demapan-Santos obtained her bachelor's degree on Feb. 19, 2011, with a major in Information Technology at the University of Phoenix in San Antonio campus. She hopes that all her children will be able to receive an education that encourages and nurtures creative and critical thinking in an environment of complexity, ambiguity and uncertainty. Demapan-Santos is the daughter of Frank and Lela of San Vicente, Saipan. She is shown here with, from left, her sons Adrian Tony, Adam Jacob, Michelle, daughter Annalei, Abraham Mathew, and husband Ben.

**BIRTHDAY POEM FOR GRANDMA**

A grandmother is a remarkable woman.
She's a wonderful combination of warmth and kindness, laughter and love.
She overlooks our faults, encourages our dreams,
and praises our every success.
Happy birthday mom/grandma Mako.
We love you always and forever more!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS**

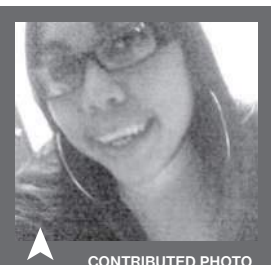


CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy fourth birthday Gregory Stephen "Fatcakes" Calvo Jr. May this year be filled with love, happiness, and many blessings! With all our love, the Calvo family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A very special happy birthday go out to Frankie M. Camacho, who will be celebrating his extravagant day today, March 19. Wishing you nothing but the best in life! God bless and may you have many more rocking birthdays to come. We all love you Frankie! Greetings coming out from the familia and friends!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday Irenia Dela Cruz who celebrated her special day yesterday, March 18. Enjoy and many more birthdays to come. From your family, friends, Asako, Marissa, Kaylyn, and Randall.




**MCDONALD'S TURNS 18**

CLARISSA V. DAVID

McDonald's Saipan admin ladies, from left, Marissa E. Obtinalla, accountant; Ana S. Olaes, general supervisor; Narme N. Mendoza, computer support specialist; and Rose L. Leong-Aguon, administrative assistant.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

McDonald's Saipan building maintenance and electrician manager, left, Emmanuel Vital is the longest serving employee of McDonald's Saipan. With him are employees from sister company RJ Corp. From left: Vital, Narciso Narciso, building maintenance repair supervisor; Mark Russel Rigua, building maintenance repair helper; and Arnaldo Villones, aircon technician.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Jesselyn Sablan has only been with McDonald's Saipan a week but the 17-year-old already sees herself working for the company in the long term.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

McDonald's Saipan Middle Road area manager Joseph Achas worked his way from the ranks in his 15 years with the company.

YoungStyle

# Mich. player was 'larger than life,' mourners told

By TIM MARTIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**HOLLAND, Mich.** (AP)—Classmates, coaches and former opponents were among the mourners who filled a southwest Michigan church Tuesday to celebrate the short life of a teen athlete who friends and family say will have a long-lasting impact.

Many of the more than 1,500 people at Wes Leonard's funeral wore orange ribbons, and some released orange and black balloons outside the church, mirroring the colors of the Fennville High team that he made a game-winning shot for last week before collapsing on the basketball court.

The night before they paid tribute to Leonard at the church, his teammates honored the 16-year-old junior as they played through their grief to win their first game in the state Class C tournament.

Those who knew the "larger than life" football and basketball star always recognized that he was special, even apart from sports, his uncle, Jim Leonard, said during the church service. National attention in the wake of Leonard's death has touted his character to a far broader audience.

"It's just amazing that now the whole world knows how special he was," Jim Leonard said at Christ Memorial Church. "Wes will not be forgotten."

Leonard died of cardiac arrest from an enlarged heart last Thursday, moments after his shot gave the undefeated Blackhawks a victory to wrap up the regular season.

Opponents said they admired Leonard's game-winning feats in basketball and football—he also was the Fennville football team's star quarterback—but they also respected his grace, sportsmanship and leadership.

"No negativity," said Devin Brock, a Bloomingdale basketball player who competed against Fennville, said of Leonard. "He was always positive."

Fennville is a town of about 1,400 near Lake Michigan, but the school district covers a broader area. A bus from the Gobles and Bloomingdale districts arrived at the funeral with more than 70 students. Many other school districts were represented as well.

There were tears, but there also were laughs at Tuesday's service as friends and family remembered some of Leonard's good-natured antics and dares at church groups and on family trips.

Classes were canceled Tuesday in the district, which has been grieving since Leonard's death.

"It's just been really tough...not having Wes at school has just been really hard," said Marcos Vega, a Fennville student. "Wes was always a happy kid. He always had a smile on his face."

The Rev. Gary Peterson, the pastor of Fennville United Methodist Church, recalled Leonard's love for sports, the outdoors and his Christian faith. Since last week, Peterson said many teenagers have told him about Leonard's strong faith and how he treated others with compassion and love.

"Wes loved life," Peterson said. "He loved the world around him and the people he came into contact with. He looked for the goodness."

Sports was a dominant theme in Leonard's life, and the funeral program listed sections of the memorial as first quarter, second quarter, halftime, third quarter, fourth quarter and "final victory."

Mourners saw video tributes to Leonard that showed him playing football and basketball along with photos of him outside of athletics. Flowers, including a wreath with orange flowers, surrounded his casket. The funeral ended with a rap song inspired by Leonard called "Blackhawk Down."

Some of the lyrics: "They say the good die young, wish this was a dream," and "You're in the sky where the real stars belong."

The Blackhawks, at 21-0, are one of the highest-rated Class C teams in the state headed into Wednesday's second round district game.

Monday night's 65-54 win over Lawrence was emotion-filled before it ever started. In tribute to Leonard, Fennville sent just four players onto the court before the opening tip. The fifth player took the court after a dramatic pause to wild cheering from the crowd.

"I think he was watching down on us," Fennville coach Ryan Klingler said after the game.

AP
Fennville High School coaches Travis Cossey, on right, and Tim Schipper, help carry the casket of Wes Leonard, 16, out of Christ Memorial Church after Leonard's funeral, Tuesday, March 8, 2011, in Holland, Mich.

AP
Fennville's Xavier Grigg (33) hugs Mitchell Leonard, brother of late teammate Wes Leonard, after Fennville's 79.50 victory over Bangor in a Class C district final boys basketball game Wednesday, March 9, 2011 in Holland, Mich.

# Apple moves to stop kids racking up iTunes bills

By PETER SVENSSON
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Apple Inc. has changed how purchases inside iPhone and iPad games are authorized after customers complained that their kids were racking up hundreds of dollars worth of charges.

The issue was that after a user entered his or her iTunes password on a device, the device didn't prompt for the password again for 15 minutes. Any purchases, whether in the iTunes store or inside kid-friendly games such as "The Smurf's Village," went through without a new password prompt.

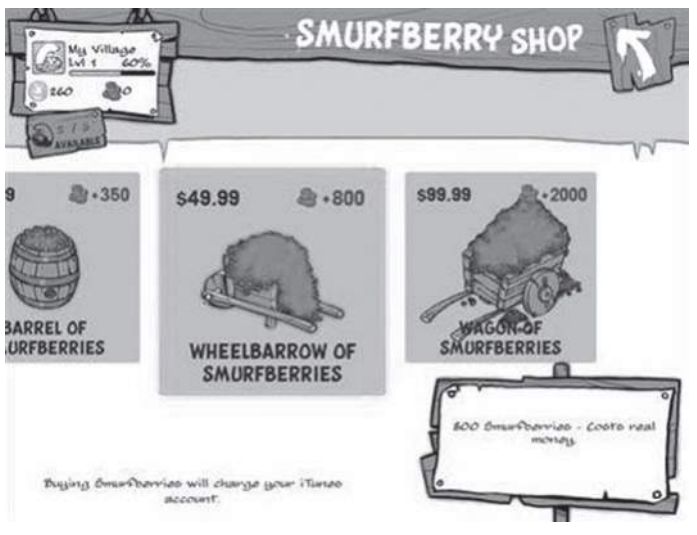
This meant that parents who handed over their iPhones or iPads to their kids were sometimes shocked by large purchases of "Smurfberries" and other virtual bling.

An Associated Press story in December highlighted the phenomenon. A subsequent story in The Washington Post prompted Rep. Ed Markey, D-Mass., to ask the Federal Trade Commission to look into the issue.

With the iOS 4.3 software update, Apple devices have one 15-minute password-free timer for the App Store and iTunes, and a separate one for in-app purchases, Apple spokeswoman Trudy Muller said.

Muller said she couldn't say why Apple made the change.

Free, child-friendly games that allow in-app purchases are still on the list of top-grossing apps in the App Store. At the top is "Tap Zoo," and "Smurfs' Village" is No. 6. "Smurfberries" and similar items in other games allow players to speed up what is otherwise very slow processes, such growing crops for the Smurfs.




AP
In this screen shot of Capcom Entertainment Inc.'s "The Smurf's' Village" app, the Smurfberry Shop is displayed.

The parents the AP talked to for the December story had received refunds from Apple for the inadvertent purchases.

# Eating disorders hit more than half million teens

By LINDSEY TANNER
AP MEDICAL WRITER

**CHICAGO** (AP)—More than half a million U.S. teens have had an eating disorder but few have sought treatment for the problem, government research shows.

The study is billed as the largest and most comprehensive analysis of eating disorders. It involved nationally representative data on more than 10,000 teens aged 13 to 18.

**ON THE NET**
- NIH: http://health.nih.gov/topic/EatingDisorders
- Journal: http://archpsyc.ama-assn.org/

Binge-eating disorder was the most common, affecting more than 1.5 percent of kids studied. Just under 1 percent had experienced bulimia, and 0.3 percent had had anorexia. Overall, 3 percent had a lifetime prevalence of one of the disorders. Another 3 percent of kids questioned had troubling symptoms but not full-fledged eating disorders.

The study was released online Monday in Archives of General Psychiatry.

The rates are slightly higher than in other studies. And the study is based on kids and parents interviewed over two years ending in 2004. But co-author and researcher Kathleen Merikangas of the National Institute of Mental Health says similar rates likely exist today.

More than half the affected teens had depression, anxiety or some other mental disorder. Sizeable numbers also reported suicide thoughts or attempts.

Merikangas said the results underscore the seriousness of eating disorders.

## Riddle Card

1. What insect lives on nothing?
2. What land do babies like best?
3. Why is "O" the noisiest of vowels?
4. How is a balloon like a vagabond?
5. Which travels faster — heat or cold?

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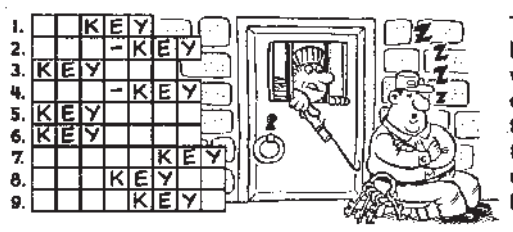
Answers: 1. A moth, because it eats holes. 2. Lapland. 3. Because the rest are "in audible." 4. Because it has no visible means of support. 5. Heat, because you can catch cold.

## Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

### A "KEY" WORD TEST!

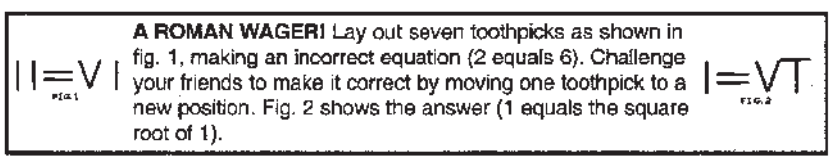


The grid to the left has room for nine words, and they all contain a "key." Try to find them before the "turnkey" wakes up! The following hints should help.

1. Slang for jail.
2. Hit the wrong note.
3. Every mouse needs one.
4. A restrained style.
5. A modern door opener.
6. The main political speech.
7. Exaggerated or foolish talk.
8. Tampered with something.
9. Slavish, obedient people.

Answers: 1. Pokey. 2. Off-key. 3. Keypad. 4. Low-key. 5. Keycard. 6. Keynote. 7. Malarkey. 8. Monkeyed. 9. Flunkeys.

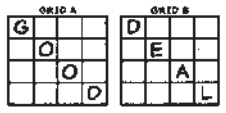
**A ROMAN WAGER!** Lay out seven toothpicks as shown in fig. 1, making an incorrect equation (2 equals 6). Challenge your friends to make it correct by moving one toothpick to a new position. Fig. 2 shows the answer (1 equals the square root of 1).




Illustrated by David Coulson

**WORD POWER IS A "GOOD DEAL"!** Pictured below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in grid B.

1. Former college student.
2. Chrome _____(sl.)
3. Tiny particle.
4. To give high praise.




1. Type of race.
2. A musician's tape.
3. Usually full of water.
4. Having a double purpose.

Answers: 1. Grad-drag. 2. Dome-demo. 3. Atom-moat. 4. Laud-dual.

# Kids need to care for their dog

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I got a dog, "Jess," for my kids after they begged me for months. It was on the condition that they take care of her, take her for walks, train her, etc. But I am always the one taking her for walks, trying to train her, making sure she gets fed. How can I make these kids be responsible for their pet?—Tammy G., Tallahassee, Fla.**

DEAR TAMMY: It sounds like you're going to have to train the kids alongside the dog. I'm sure you've reminded them that they promised to be responsible for Jess, with no results. I'm no parenting expert, but it's probably time to be a little sterner with them.

What's your normal disciplinary style for the kids when they break the rules? Do you send them to their rooms? Ground them? Or take away something they value for a period of time, like access to the video-game console? Implement the same discipline for failure to take care of Jess.

Do you maintain a chore chart for the kids? Add dog walks, training, feeding and other tasks to the chart, with the same reward/punishment system as for the other chores.

To help your kids get into the habit of caring for Jess regularly, join them for the first week or two as they complete their assigned task—not lecturing, just helping. Go with them on walks with Jess, but make sure they hold the leash. Guide them when they're teaching Jess basic commands, but have them do the training. Get them into the habit of taking care of their dog.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER: The Canton Paw Park in Canton, Ga., featured in a column last year on dog parks, is preparing for its grand opening on April 16. We want to thank Boy Scout Troop No. 4900, which handmade 10 bag holder stations. The project helped the scouts earn their carpentry badges.—Alesa**

DEAR ALESA: Great job, Scouts! Readers, you can learn more about Troop 4900's project and the Canton Paw Park at www.pawscorner.com.

■ ■ ■

*Send your pet questions and tips to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet advice and resources at www.pawscorner.com.*

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# Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was Kurt Vonnegut, one of the most influential writers of the 20th century, who made the following sage observation: "There is no reason why good cannot triumph as often as evil. The triumph of anything is a matter of organization. If there are such things as angels, I hope they are organized along the lines of the Mafia."

■ That cork you pulled out of your wine bottle was made from the bark of a tree. The cork oak has to grow for 25 years before any cork is harvested, and then it's stripped only every 10 years thereafter.

■ If you can predict the future by watching the flight patterns of birds, you are engaging in ornithomancy.

■ The coldest place on earth is a place known only as Ridge A in Antarctica. The average winter temperature there is -94 degrees F.

■ According to archaeological research, the bikini is nothing new; evidence has been found that the two-piece garment was worn in parts of Italy as early as 2000 B.C.

■ In 1950, 70 percent of all the cars, buses and trucks in the world could be found in the United States.

■ According to the Consumer Electronics Association, the average television screen in United States homes is growing by 1 inch every year.

■ It was Ambrose Bierce, in his "Devil's Dictionary," who defined "admiration" as "our polite recognition of another's resemblance to ourselves."

■ Ever wonder why magazine publisher Hugh Hefner chose a rabbit as the symbol of his Playboy magazine? Evidently, when the mogul was a small boy, one of his treasured possessions was a blanket with bunnies all over it.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "I've done the calculation, and your chances of winning the lottery are identical whether you play or not."—Fran Lebowitz

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## MAGIC MAZE ● BRIT SPEAK

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Y | A | X | U | R | Y | O | L | J | H | G | L | D | A | X |
| V | S | P | N | P | K | I | F | I | C | O | C | A | X | V |
| S | Q | O | P | L | J | H | G | E | R | C | A | Y | A | X |
| V | G | A | W | N | I | H | C | T | T | R | R | B | P | N |
| L | N | J | H | F | S | D | E | B | Y | X | A | B | V | T |
| R | P | N | O | T | O | P | S | O | M | K | V | O | R | Y |
| Y | I | G | R | E | D | N | I | M | Y | B | A | B | E | E |
| E | R | E | D | B | S | R | E | K | C | I | N | K | G | M |
| Z | E | R | I | H | R | A | C | X | W | U | I | T | N | I |
| T | R | Q | O | O | N | S | P | S | I | R | C | L | A | L |
| J | E | K | O | L | B | I | G | F | C | D | C | A | B | B |

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Baby minder | Bobby | Crikey | Nappy |
| Banger | Car hire | High street | Petrol |
| Blimey | Caravan | Knickers | Spot on |
| Bloke | Chin-wag | Lorry | |

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## GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

**DIFFICULTY: ★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | − | | × | | | 16 |
| + | | ÷ | | × | | |
| | − | | × | | | 10 |
| ÷ | | + | | − | | |
| | × | | × | | | 21 |
| 5 | | 2 | | 9 | | |

1 2 3 4 4 6 7 8 9

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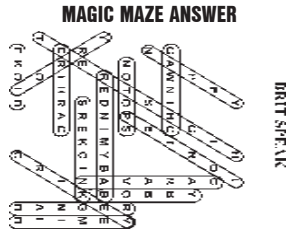
**MAGIC MAZE ANSWER**




**GO FIGURE ANSWER**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | − | 4 | × | 8 | 16 |
| + | 9 | ÷ | 4 | × | 8 |
| 9 | − | 4 | × | 2 | 10 |
| ÷ | 3 | + | 1 | × | 7 | 21 |
| 5 | | 2 | | 9 | |

# Abstract melted crayon art

## Donna's Day — Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Before you toss out the crayon stubs your school-age kids have hoarded in shoeboxes and drawers around the house this past winter, make these brilliant note cards and postcards or a colorful abstract picture. Great rainy day fun!

In this activity, pointillism gives way to 20th-century abstract. Ask your kids: "Wanna just slab some melted crayons all over some paper?" They're bound to say yes. After all, it sounds like it's going to be a mess. How could they possibly resist that?

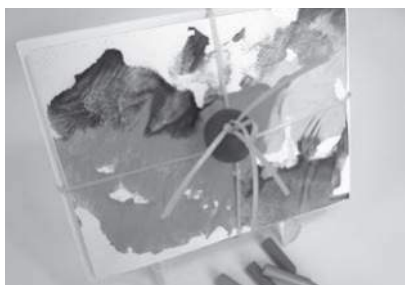
### Here's the stuff you'll need:

■ Electric frying pan or warming tray
■ Heavy-duty aluminum foil
■ Crayon stubs with paper removed (fluorescent colors work beautifully)
■ Heavy construction paper or blank stationery cards

### Here's the fun:

1. With adult supervision, cover the bottom of an electric frying pan or warming tray with heavy-duty aluminum foil. Set the pan on LOW heat. Drop the little bits of crayon right on the foil and watch them melt, forming small puddles.

2. To make the note cards, fold a piece of heavy paper in half. While holding one half of the paper in one hand, gently lay the outside surface of the other half in several puddles of wax for a second or two. Use a Popsicle stick to press the paper into the wax if necessary. Lift the paper out of the wax. The colors should be brilliant and spread everywhere in a fascinating abstract design. If the melted crayon adheres in clumps, let it drip down the card a bit for a "lava lamp" effect. Lay aside to harden.



3. Stack several folded cards and tie them together with a ribbon and bow or bead for a lovely present to give someone special. Or, write a note or postcard to a friend and mail it.

Quick tip: Why not add your own personal stamp to the back of your designer note cards? Take a stamp with the first letter of your name, add a little poster paint to an ink pad, and give the back of your cards a unique signature.

Is there a fun recycling craft project your family enjoys? Share your ideas at www.donnasday.com.

■ ■ ■

*Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."*

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# Life & Style

## $125,871 paid for Middleton's see-through dress

**LONDON** (AP)—A revealing piece of royal history was sold Thursday for 78,000 pounds ($125,871) when an unidentified buyer bought the infamous see-through dress Kate Middleton wore back in 2002 when she and Prince William were university friends.

Some reports maintain that the sight of Middleton in the transparent dress as she walked down the catwalk at a charity fashion show helped convince William that she was someone he wanted to get to know better.

Whether or not the see-through black dress was a major factor, they soon became boyfriend and girlfriend, starting a long-term romance that will bring them to the altar of Westminster Abbey on April 29.

The dress was supposed to be a skirt, but Middleton wore it as a dress showing her black underwear beneath.

It was bought by an unidentified male British buyer at a London auction Thursday for 65,000 pounds ($104,948) and an additional 13,000 pounds ($20,989) of buyer's premium.

"He thinks it's an iconic piece," said an unnamed man who represented the buyer at the auction. "He's very happy."

About three to four bidders competed for the dress in the packed room, while some also bid by phone. Gasps rang around the room when the bidding drove the price up to 65,000 pounds ($104,948).

No one would mistake the dress for high fashion. It was put up for sale by designer Charlotte Todd, who did not go into fashion but works in an aquarium.

"I'm completely shocked, I need to sit down and get my head round it," Todd, 31, said. "I didn't like to get my hopes up, I was thinking it might not sell. I wasn't thinking of a sum of money in my head."

Bidder Carole Lieberman said the garment shows that Middleton was willing to use hardball tactics in pursuit of the University of St. Andrew's' most eligible bachelor.

Lieberman, a U.S. talk show host and psychiatrist, said before the auction that she had planned to bid aggressively on the dress after buying other items, including nightdresses that belonged to Wallis Simpson, the American divorcee who lured King Edward VIII from the throne. Lieberman was outbid by the mystery buyer.

She said she wanted to purchase Middleton's dress because Middleton was "the quintessential good girl who used bad girl secrets to catch her prince."

AP

Charlotte Todd stands next to the dress she designed, and which was worn by Kate Middleton during a St Andrew's University charity fashion show in 2002, during a media event prior to its auction, in London, Wednesday, March, 16, 2011.


**In Celebration of Her New Life**

*Elizabeth Blanco Matsunaga*

*Born on July 31, 1913, she was called to her Father's Kingdom on March 15, 2011 after having lived a full life of 97 years.*

***IN HER NEW LIFE, SHE IS FINALLY HOME IN HEAVEN AND REUNITED WITH HER:***

***Grandparents:*** *Domingo DLG. Blanco & Juana Manahane Taitano*
***Parents:*** *Juan Watanabe Matsunaga & Maria Taitano Blanco Matsunaga*
***Husband:*** *Hanazawa Tsuruo*
***Brothers/Sisters/spouses:***
*Ramon B. Matsunaga, Jose B. Matsunaga, Sr. Ursula B. Matsunaga, MMB, Juana B. Matsunaga, Juan B. & Ana Benavente Matsunaga, Efrain B. Matsunaga & Maria Narikawa Matsunaga & Remedio Camacho Matsunaga, Daniel B. & Natividad (aka "Daling") Matsunaga, Manases B. Matsunaga, Concepcion M. Ooka & Agustino Izuka & Jesus Ooka*
***Son & In-law:*** *Francisco (Minoru) B. Matsunaga & Antonia Tudela Matsunaga*
***Son-in-law:*** *David Quichocho Maratita*
***Nephews/Nieces:*** *Calistro Matsunaga Izuka*

***HER LIFETIME OF MEMORIES WILL BE CHERISHED BY HER:***
***Reared-daughter & grandchildren:***
***Lucia L. Blanco-Maratita*** *(Matthew, Winona)*
***Grandchildren & great grandchildren:***
***Thomas Tudela Matsunaga*** *(Trumaine, Jordan, Randall, Kendall, Thomas Jr., Tyler*
***George Tudela Matsunaga*** *& Leonora C. Bowie (Regina [Baron James], Alexis, Frank)*
***Ramon Tudela Matsunaga*** *& Tina Pangelinan (Isabel, Victoria, Christina)*
***Elizabeth Tudela Matsunaga*** *& George Lieto (George Jr., Lorraine, Kimberly, Eva, Eugene, George, Peter, Francisco, Ana, Marie Rose, Magdalena)*
***Devine Cabrera Matsunaga*** *& Rico Pabalan (Devin, Daniel, Darren)*
***Francisco Cabrera Matsunaga, Jr.*** *& Marissa A.*
***Reared-son:*** ***Katsushi Yagi***
***Daughter-in-law:*** ***Cynthia Cabrera Matsunaga***

*She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, great-great grand children, cousins, and godchildren and missed by her many friends, especially at the Man Amko Center.*

*Nightly rosary is being said at 7:00 p.m. at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral, Chalan Kanoa. On Thursday, March 24, 2011, her remains will be escorted at 8:00 a.m. from Borja's Funeral Home in San Jose to Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. and interment will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.*

## NJ governor targets reality star's hubby

**TRENTON, N.J.** (AP)—Gov. Chris Christie is picking a fight with the husband of one of the stars of "The Real Housewives of New Jersey" reality show.

Christie this week suspended Albert Manzo, the husband of Caroline Manzo, from the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission, saying he and another commissioner abused the public's trust.

The governor criticized Manzo for not revealing that he lived in Franklin Lakes instead of Paterson. Manzo's posh Franklin Lakes home is often shown on the reality series.

He also owns The Brownstone restaurant in urban Paterson, which hosts weddings and special events, and lists that as his official address—something Christie on Thursday called absurd.

"Do you really believe he's sleeping on a cot at the Brownstone in Paterson?" Christie asked.

Manzo told The Record newspaper he has an apartment in his Paterson restaurant and plans to fight to keep his job.

Christie also suspended Michael Cricco, who was paid for attending commission meetings while still on the clock for his $80,000-a-year job at the Schools Development Authority. Cricco was fired from the SDA on Wednesday after Christie said Cricco ignored an order to use only personal time to attend the meetings.

Cricco told the newspaper a state ethics panel had approved his attendance at meetings.

AP

In this Oct. 6, 2010 file photo, TV personalities Caroline Manzo, left, and Albert Manzo, from "The Real Housewives of New Jersey" attend "The Spin Crowd" season finale party in New York.

During his year in office, Christie has reined in spending by various agencies and authorities through the use of his veto pen, rejecting minutes and budgets.

Not all agencies are subject to gubernatorial scrutiny, however, and many have become patronage farms for both political parties.

# ‘American Idol’ sends another finalist home

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—”American Idol” viewers are saying adios to Karen Rodriguez.

The bubbly, bilingual 21-year-old wannabe diva from New York, who crooned Taylor Dayne’s “Love Will Lead You Back” in English and Spanish on the Fox talent competition Wednesday, was revealed Thursday to have received the fewest viewer votes. The judges decided against saving her following a last-chance performance of Mariah Carey’s “Hero.”

“It just felt great to at least have that one chance,” Rodriguez said after her swan song.

Haley Reinhart, the 20-year-old college student from Wheeling, Ill., who belted out Whitney Houston’s “I’m Your Baby Tonight” while smudging her lipstick, and Naima Adedapo, the 26-year-old dance instructor from Milwaukee who delivered a pitchy rendition of Tina Turner’s “What’s Love Got to Do with It,” joined Rodriguez as the bottom three vote-getters.

Before the elimination, the top 12 finalists plowed through a mash-up of Steppenwolf’s “Born to Be Wild” and Lady Gaga’s “Born This Way.”

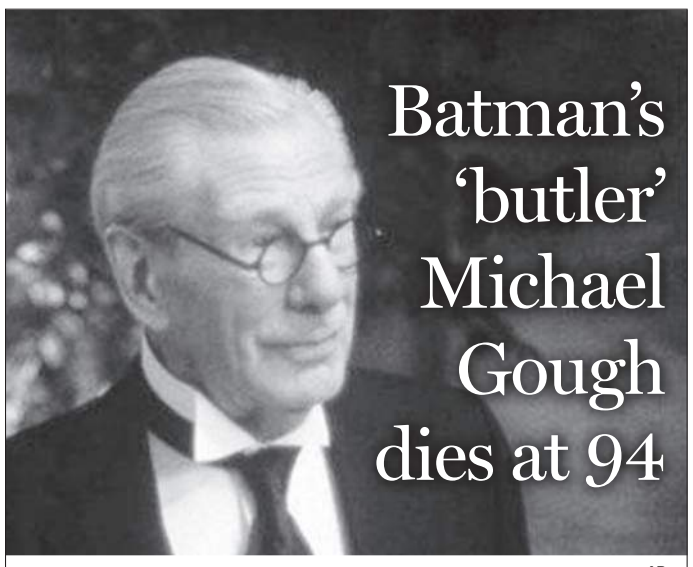
The Black Eyed Peas later dedicated a performance of “Just Can’t Get Enough” to their “friends in Japan,” and last year’s “Idol” winner Lee DeWyze offered advice to this season’s brood after singing “Beautiful Like You.”

“Just remember why you tried out in the first place,” DeWyze told the contestants. “At the end of the of the day, no matter when you leave, you still love music, and you’re gonna keep doing it. You guys are fine no matter what happens.”

The other remaining finalists are Casey Abrams, 20, of Idyllwild, Calif.; Lauren Alaina, 16, of Rossville, Ga.; James Durbin, 22, of Santa Cruz, Calif.; Stefano Langone, 21, of Kent, Wash.; Jacob Lusk, 23, of Compton, Calif.; Scotty McCreery, 17, of Garner, N.C.; Paul McDonald, 26, of Nashville, Tenn.; Thia Megia, 16, of Mountain House, Calif.; and Pia Toscano, 22, of Howard Beach, N.Y.

AP

In this publicity image released by Fox, Karen Rodriguez performs on the singing competition series “American Idol,” on Wednesday, March 9, 2011, in Los Angeles.



# Batman’s ‘butler’ Michael Gough dies at 94

AP

In this 1997 photo originally released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Michael Gough portrays Alfred, the trusted butler of Bruce Wayne in a scene from the movie “Batman and Robin.”

**LONDON** (AP)—Michael Gough, the British actor best known for playing Bruce Wayne’s butler Alfred in a series of Batman movies, died Thursday at age 94, his ex-wife said.

Gough appeared in more than 150 movies and television shows, including British science-fiction show “Doctor Who,” and recently voiced characters in Tim Burton’s “Alice in Wonderland” and “Corpse Bride.” But he remains best remembered for his role as Alfred Pennyworth in the Batman franchise, opposite three different Batmans: Michael Keaton, Val Kilmer and George Clooney.

The veteran actor died at home in England, surrounded by family, his ex-wife Anneke Wills said through her agent.

Wills, who herself starred in the “Dr. Who,” said in an obituary posted on its website: “As his body was deteriorating this week, he said that he wanted to hang on for St. Patrick’s Day. And he did, just. In the end ... there is only love.”

Gough starred in “Batman Returns,” directed by Burton in 1992, and “Batman Forever” in 1995 and “Batman and Robin” in 1997, both by Joel Schumacher.

# Will Smith helps Philly school replace computers

**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Will Smith is donating replacements for 30 stolen computers to a high school in West Philadelphia, where he was born and raised.

The Will and Jada Smith Family Foundation and the Charlie Mack Cares philanthropic organizations are giving 29 Apple laptops and one desktop to West Philadelphia High School.

Local community activist Charlie Mack is a longtime assistant and friend of Smith, the music, TV and film superstar.

Mack says he plans to deliver the new computers to the school Friday. Smith is working elsewhere and can’t make it.

Two students have been charged with stealing 60 computers from the school last month. Police recovered half of them, but the rest remain unaccounted for.

# Shakira, Brazilian president pledge to help kids

**RIO DE JANEIRO** (AP)—Colombian singer Shakira and Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff are pledging to improve the welfare of children in Brazil.

Shakira met with Rousseff for about 20 minutes Thursday in front of reporters in the Brazilian capital of Brasilia prior to a scheduled concert.

The two discussed the work of Shakira’s Alas Foundation, which promotes early-childhood development in Latin America.

The singer gave Rousseff a guitar after the meeting. Before coming to Brazil, Shakira inaugurated 20 childhood development centers in Argentina. She has said she has plans to do similar work in Panama and Mexico.

AP

Brazil’s President Dilma Rousseff, left, receives an autographed guitar from Colombian singer Shakira at Planalto Palace in Brasilia, Brazil, Thursday March 17, 2011.

# Abandoned child can’t share family’s nostalgia for mom

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My mom died of an aneurysm 23 years ago. I was only 7. I occasionally hear an aunt or uncle talk about how much they loved her and miss her.

I moved in with an aunt when I was 5, due to abuse from my father. Two years later, my mom was gone. As kids, my brother and I never received counseling. We bounced from home to home and finally ended up in a stable environment with our grandma.

I usually feel guilty when people talk about my mom because I cannot relate. I tell myself that maybe God sacrificed her so I could have a good life. Sometimes, I feel more anger than love toward her because of the abuse and abandonment.

What am I supposed to feel about her? Can someone love a person they never knew? To be honest, I don’t know how to feel about my mother.

EMOTIONLESS IN OKLAHOMA CITY

**DEAR EMOTIONLESS: It is very difficult to love someone you never knew. And from your description of your childhood, your feelings are understandable. However, because those feelings are bothering you and creating guilt, they should be discussed with a licensed professional. If you do, you will gain a better understanding not only of yourself, but also the dynamics in your family. You do not deserve to be carrying around any guilt at all.**

■■■

DEAR ABBY: When people have a serious illness, their friends and family usually send “Get Well” messages and flowers to the hospital. Unfortunately, it isn’t the custom to send supportive greetings and gifts to those who are dealing with psychiatric illnesses. These people deserve all of the attention and good wishes that other patients receive.

Please let it be known that psychiatric illnesses are treatable and recovery is possible. Support in all forms is essential in all patients’ progress toward recovering from serious illness of any kind.

KATHY IN UNIVERSAL CITY, TEXAS

**DEAR KATHY: You make a good point. The reason some people may be hesitant to acknowledge someone’s mental illness may be the stigma that’s still attached to these kinds of problems. For that same reason, there may be a reluctance on the part of the patient’s family to reveal there is a problem so serious their family member must be hospitalized.**

**But you’re absolutely right. When people are ill, they need to know they’re cared about—and a card with warm good wishes is a step in the right direction.**

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I’m 14 and have a big problem. My teacher, “Mrs. Smith,” adores me. She is always calling on me and telling the class about all the things I’m doing correctly. After she does it, the other kids glare at me and call me “Teacher’s Pet.” It makes me uncomfortable, but I can’t help it if Mrs. Smith likes me. What should I do?

DON’T WANT TO BE TEACHER’S PET

**DEAR DON’T: When a student excels at athletics, music or drama, it usually makes the boy or girl a celebrity on campus. Sadly, the same is often not true when a student excels at academics, and it’s a shame. Because being used as an example is making you a target, ask your teacher to tone it down. And if it doesn’t happen, have your mother speak to the teacher and/or the principal, if necessary.**

■■■

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

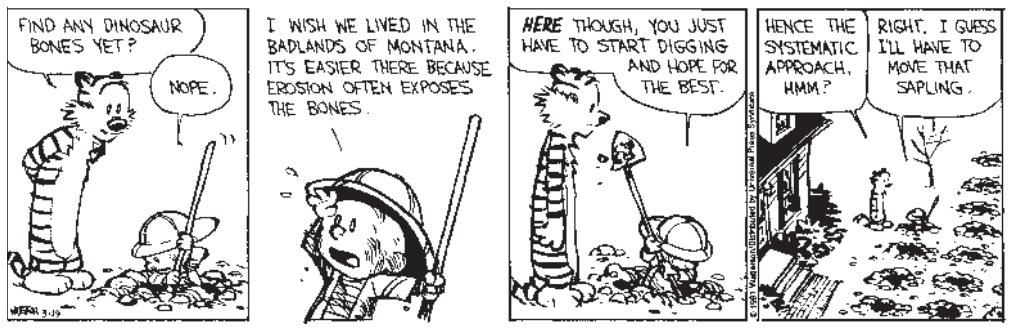
■■■

*For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order “How to Be Popular.” Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

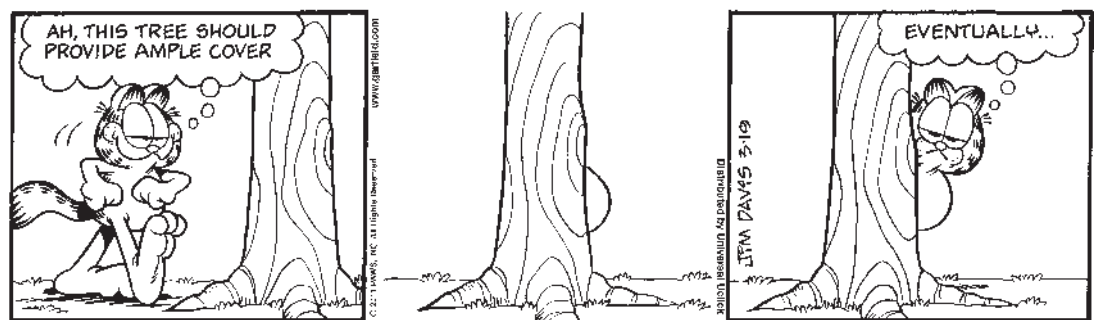
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


FIND ANY DINOSAUR BONES YET?
NOPE.
I WISH WE LIVED IN THE BADLANDS OF MONTANA. IT'S EASIER THERE BECAUSE EROSION OFTEN EXPOSES THE BONES.
HERE THOUGH, YOU JUST HAVE TO START DIGGING AND HOPE FOR THE BEST.
HENCE THE SYSTEMATIC APPROACH. HMM?
RIGHT. I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO MOVE THAT SAPLING.

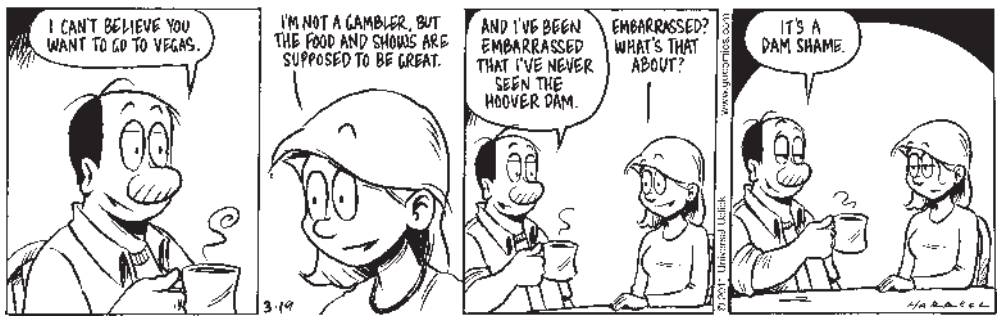
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



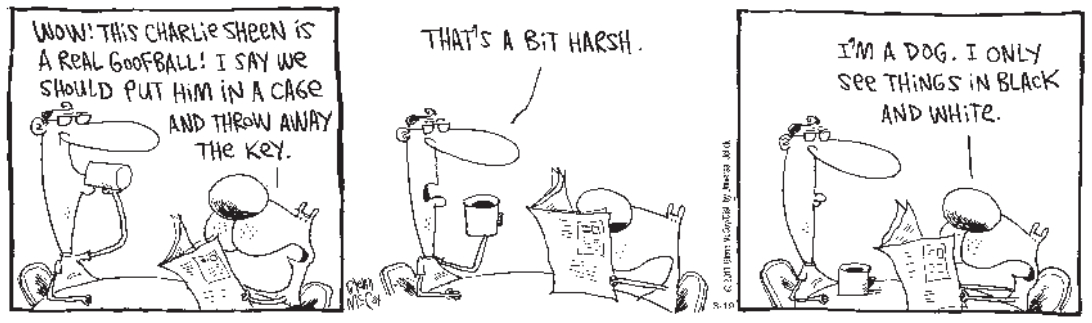

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WANT TO GO TO VEGAS.
I'M NOT A GAMBLER, BUT THE FOOD AND SHOWS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE GREAT.
AND I'VE BEEN EMBARRASSED THAT I'VE NEVER SEEN THE HOOVER DAM.
EMBARRASSED? WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?
IT'S A DAM SHAME.

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


WOW! THIS CHARLIE SHEEN IS A REAL GOOFBALL! I SAY WE SHOULD PUT HIM IN A CAGE AND THROW AWAY THE KEY.
THAT'S A BIT HARSH.
I'M A DOG. I ONLY SEE THINGS IN BLACK AND WHITE.

## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

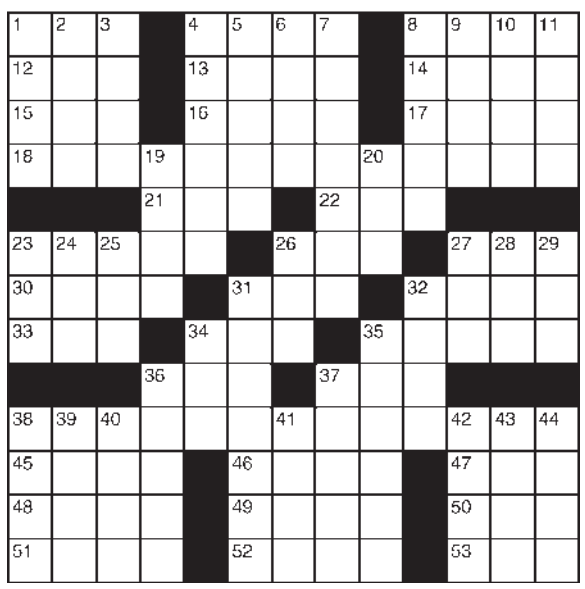
**ACROSS**
1 "The View" airer
4 Lummox
8 Ear-related
12 Afternoon social
13 Take on
14 "It's Impossible" singer
15 "— the ramparts ..."
16 First victim
17 Somewhere out there
18 Old game show with Whammies
21 Sch. org.
22 24 horas
23 Plankton components
26 Symbol of intrigue
27 "Absolutely"
30 Channel marker
31 Craze
32 Booty
33 Id counterpart
34 Deity
35 Sack material
36 Peace (Lat.)
37 Hodges of baseball lore
38 Greet voters
45 Zhivago's love
46 Litter's littlest
47 Chart format
48 Wicked
49 Fairy tale villain
50 Under the weather
51 Consider
52 Prepared to drive
53 Filch

**DOWN**
1 Surmounting
2 "Cheers" supply
3 Give a darn
4 Pure
5 Tripoli's nation
6 Sandwich treat
7 Tricked
8 Florida city
9 Bean curd
10 Apple computer
11 Stopper
19 Fix, in a sense
20 Cage piece
23 Honest politician
24 Drag along
25 Sticky stuff
26 Mouthful of gum
27 Thither
28 A billion years
29 Pigpen
31 Bill Amend's comic strip
32 Calm before the storm
34 Petrol
35 Talented
36 Church song
37 Category
38 Begged
39 Carry on
40 One of HOMES
41 Ginormous
42 Grand story
43 Missile shelter
44 Aid

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | V | E | ■ | A | D | D | ■ | A | L | D | E | N |
| P | I | P | ■ | L | E | I | ■ | P | A | U | S | E |
| A | D | O | ■ | P | E | N | T | E | C | O | S | T |
| R | E | X | ■ | S | P | A | R | S | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| T | O | Y | S | ■ | E | R | A | ■ | S | I | B | S |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | C | A | N | ■ | P | E | N | T | U | P |
| O | N | I | O | N | ■ | ■ | S | A | S | S | Y | ■ |
| P | E | N | T | A | D | ■ | E | T | C | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| T | F | N | T | ■ | F | A | R | ■ | K | N | F | W |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | S | C | R | A | M | ■ | F | V | F | ■ |
| P | F | N | T | H | O | U | S | F | ■ | W | F | D |
| O | M | A | H | A | ■ | B | F | F | ■ | F | R | G |
| D | U | P | F | D | ■ | A | R | K | ■ | I | Y | F |

Yesterday's answer 3-19



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Jake Weber, 47; Bruce Willis, 56; Glenn Close, 64; Ursula Andress, 75

**Happy Birthday**: It's up to you to keep on top of what's going on so you reach your personal and professional goals. Don't let stress lead to illness. If you take care of matters as they arise, you will have no regrets or worries to bog you down. Too much talk and not enough action will be your downfall. Your numbers are 4, 12, 16, 20, 29, 35, 42

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Refuse to let the little aggravations get to you. Keeping busy will be the key to bypassing overreacting, overspending and overindulging. Saying too much will lead to an embarrassing blunder. ✪✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Before submitting your work or a project, go over every detail carefully. An oversight on your part will cost you dearly. Don't let someone entice you into an encounter that will leave you having to make an uncomfortable explanation. ✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Don't readily comply if you are asked to donate money, time or your services. Make sure it's a legitimate request and will benefit in some way. Include someone you love in your plans and it will pull you closer together. ✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): Deal with the responsibilities you are given quickly, so you can enjoy the weekend. An older or younger family member is likely to require your assistance. Your innovative ideas will help to inspire the people around you. ✪✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You'll be adaptable, impulsive and where the action is. Don't be afraid to show your emotions and to get problems out in the open. Your ability to take the lead will mean you can control the outcome of a situation you have with a partner. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Count your money and look over your personal papers. You can budget if you are diligent about the way you spend and save. Consider getting in touch with someone you remember fondly from your youth. It's time for a reunion. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): This can turn into a very emotional day if you allow someone to walk all over you. You may not like confrontation but it's better than doing without the things or people you want in your life. Don't fold under pressure. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): With a little luck and a lot of hard work, you can turn something you've been working on into a major accomplishment. Make sure, before you present your work, that you have stayed within the guidelines. ✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't argue or you will fall behind. Size up your situation and make your move swiftly. An opportunity to remove some of the stress and responsibility from your life is apparent but only if you are prepared to act on your own behalf. ✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You have more options than you realize. Take a look at your past record and connect with someone you feel can contribute positively to your current situation. Expect an acquaintance, relative or neighbor to make a fuss. ✪✪✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Turn this into a special day. Love is in the stars and the right scenario will bring you joy. A move or spending time with someone special will be highlighted. Take on more responsibility if it will bring you the rewards you've been trying so hard to achieve. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You have to take control and show everyone what you have to offer. Be a little forceful if need be and embrace whatever situation or responsibility you face. It's up to you to make things happen. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are impulsive. You go to great lengths to prove your point and are passionate about your beliefs and traditions.

*Eugenia's Web sites:* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

# SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | | | 3 | | 6 | | | 8 |
| | | 8 | | 4 | | 7 | | |
| | 7 | | | | | | 2 | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | 7 |
| | 5 | | | | | | 6 | |
| 4 | | | | | | | | 3 |
| | 6 | | | | | | 9 | |
| | | 4 | | 1 | | 6 | | |
| 8 | | | 2 | | 3 | | | 5 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 3/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| 3 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 8 |
| 4 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| 7 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| 6 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 9 |
| 9 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 5 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 7 |
| 2 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 4 |
| 8 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 1 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 3/19

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**THUMBS UP!** Solution: 7 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | T | N | E | M | E | V | E | I | H | C | A | E | N | N |
| N | V | N | O | I | T | A | C | I | N | U | M | M | O | C |
| D | I | A | P | E | R | M | I | T | T | P | E | T | I | L |
| O | E | O | E | E | E | T | C | H | O | S | A | N | T | E |
| R | P | G | J | L | N | O | O | W | S | R | D | S | N | A |
| S | O | E | T | E | N | R | E | A | I | U | T | O | E | R |
| E | C | T | S | S | I | R | G | Z | L | A | I | K | T | A |
| T | E | S | E | Z | W | E | A | G | M | T | A | Y | T | N |
| S | A | N | E | N | W | T | E | P | C | T | N | F | A | C |
| O | T | W | W | O | I | H | S | N | P | E | E | I | T | E |
| O | C | O | I | O | T | Ⓢ | A | E | O | R | P | R | I | E |
| B | H | D | N | T | N | Ⓢ | S | N | T | D | O | E | M | R |
| T | E | O | K | R | E | Ⓐ | U | R | D | T | N | V | D | G |
| E | C | A | R | A | S | Ⓟ | E | K | I | L | A | O | A | A |
| I | K | E | L | C | S | Y | F | I | T | R | E | C | C | L |

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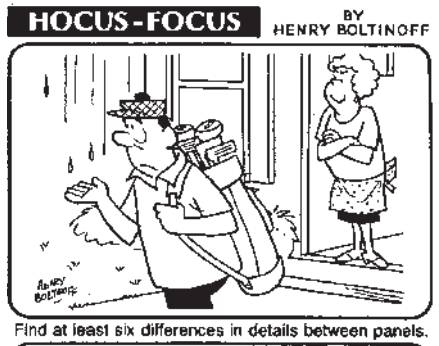
Achievement, Admit, Agree, Approval, Assent, Attention, Attest, Authorize, Boost, Cartoon, Certify, Check, Clearance, Communication, Condone, Consent, Cope, Down, Empower, Endorse, Handle, Icon, Indulge, Join, Leave, Like, Message, Notarization, Open, Pass, Permit, Race, Reject, Sanction, Seal, Settle, Stamp, Take, Verify, Wink, Winner, Witness

**Yesterday's Answer: Carriageway**

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Woman's hair is black. 2. Apron has no dots. 3. Umbrella is missing. 4. Shutters are different. 5. Flowers added near walkway. 6. Window in door is larger.

## Wishing Well®

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| I | S | L | N | N | N | I | S | F | D | E | U | T |
| 6 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 4 |
| P | A | E | A | W | R | P | T | I | O | U | A | O |
| 5 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 |
| C | R | C | T | R | I | E | T | S | I | A | S | N |
| 4 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| R | C | C | A | S | A | V | G | O | H | P | E | I |
| 8 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 3 |
| A | I | A | W | R | I | O | N | D | T | T | Y | E |
| 8 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| N | Y | A | O | W | N | G | A | E | G | T | R | I |
| 8 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 6 |
| S | H | N | E | E | J | K | S | O | E | B | R | S |

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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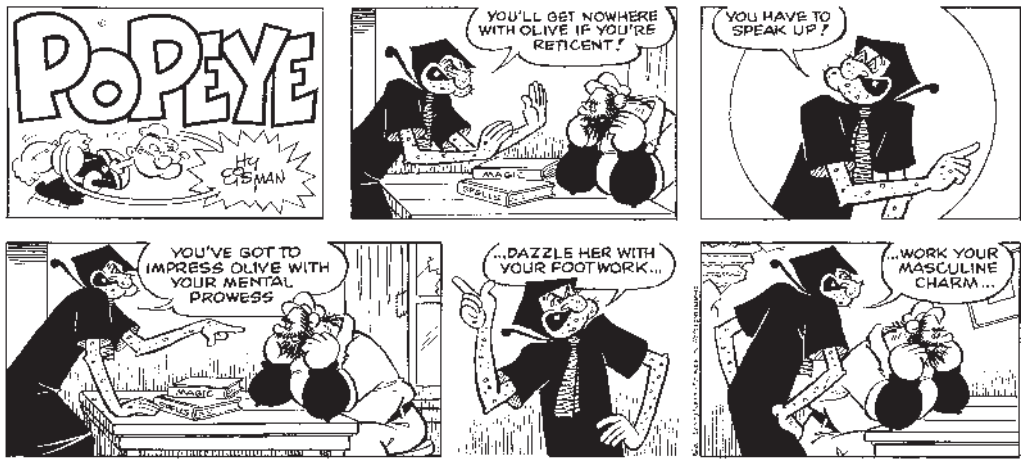
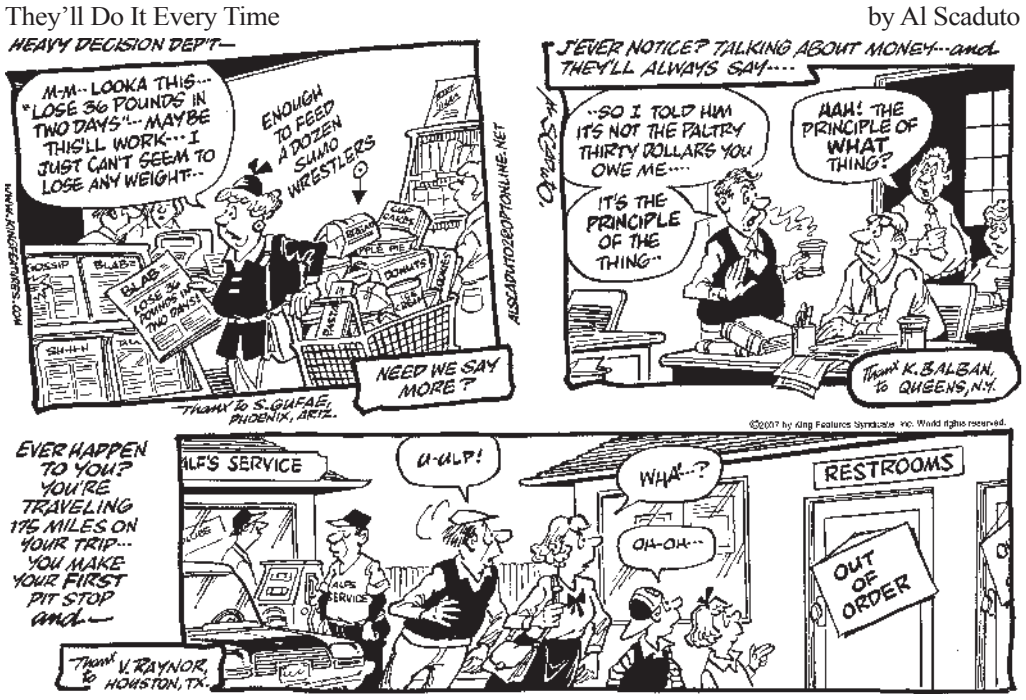
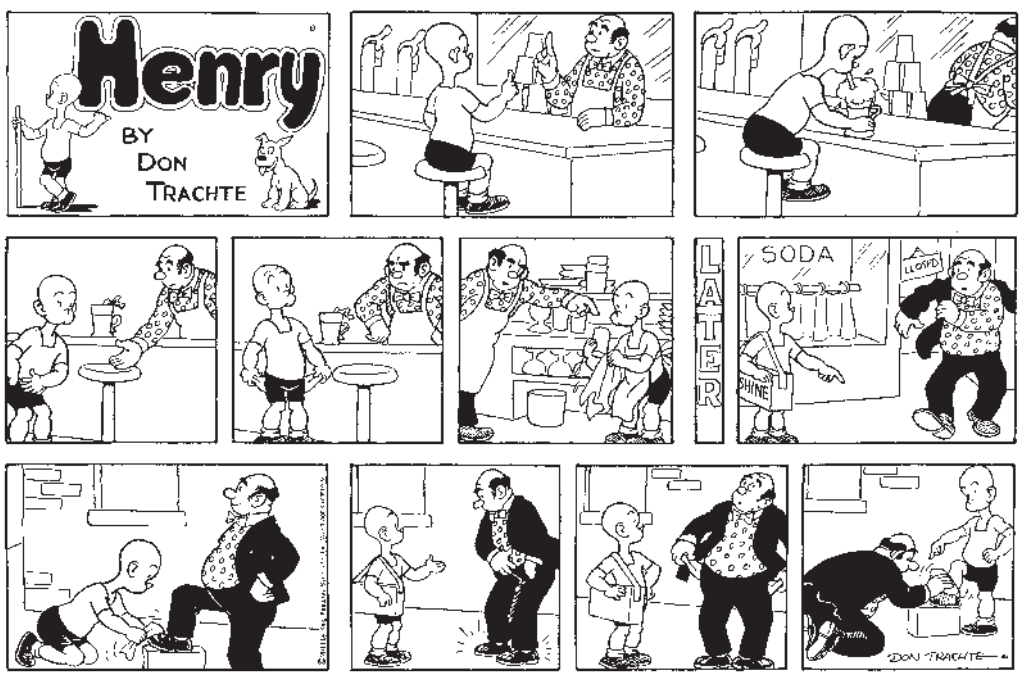

POPEYE
HEY EISMAN
YOU'LL GET NOWHERE WITH OLIVE IF YOU'RE RETICENT!
YOU HAVE TO SPEAK UP!
YOU'VE GOT TO IMPRESS OLIVE WITH YOUR MENTAL PROWESS
...DAZZLE HER WITH YOUR FOOTWORK...
...WORK YOUR MASCULINE CHARM...
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'VE GOT TO BLOW YOUR OWN HORN!
I AIN'T GOT NO HORN, HAGGY...
...HOW ABOUT TISSUE PAPER OVER A COMB?

They'll Do It Every Time — by Al Scaduto


HEAVY DECISION DEP'T—
M-M-- LOOKA THIS--- "LOSE 36 POUNDS IN TWO DAYS"--- MAYBE THIS'LL WORK--- I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO LOSE ANY WEIGHT--
ENOUGH TO FEED A DOZEN SUMO WRESTLERS
NEED WE SAY MORE?
Thanx To S. GUFAE, PHOENIX, ARIZ.
EVER NOTICE? TALKING ABOUT MONEY---and THEY'LL ALWAYS SAY....
--SO I TOLD HIM IT'S NOT THE PALTRY THIRTY DOLLARS YOU OWE ME....
IT'S THE PRINCIPLE OF THE THING--
HAH! THE PRINCIPLE OF WHAT THING?
Thanx K. BALBAN, to QUEENS, N.Y.
EVER HAPPEN TO YOU? YOU'RE TRAVELING 175 MILES ON YOUR TRIP--- YOU MAKE YOUR FIRST PIT STOP and—
U-ULP!
WHA'--?
OH-OH---
RESTROOMS
OUT OF ORDER
Thanx to V. RAYNOR, HOUSTON, TX.




## Super Crossword

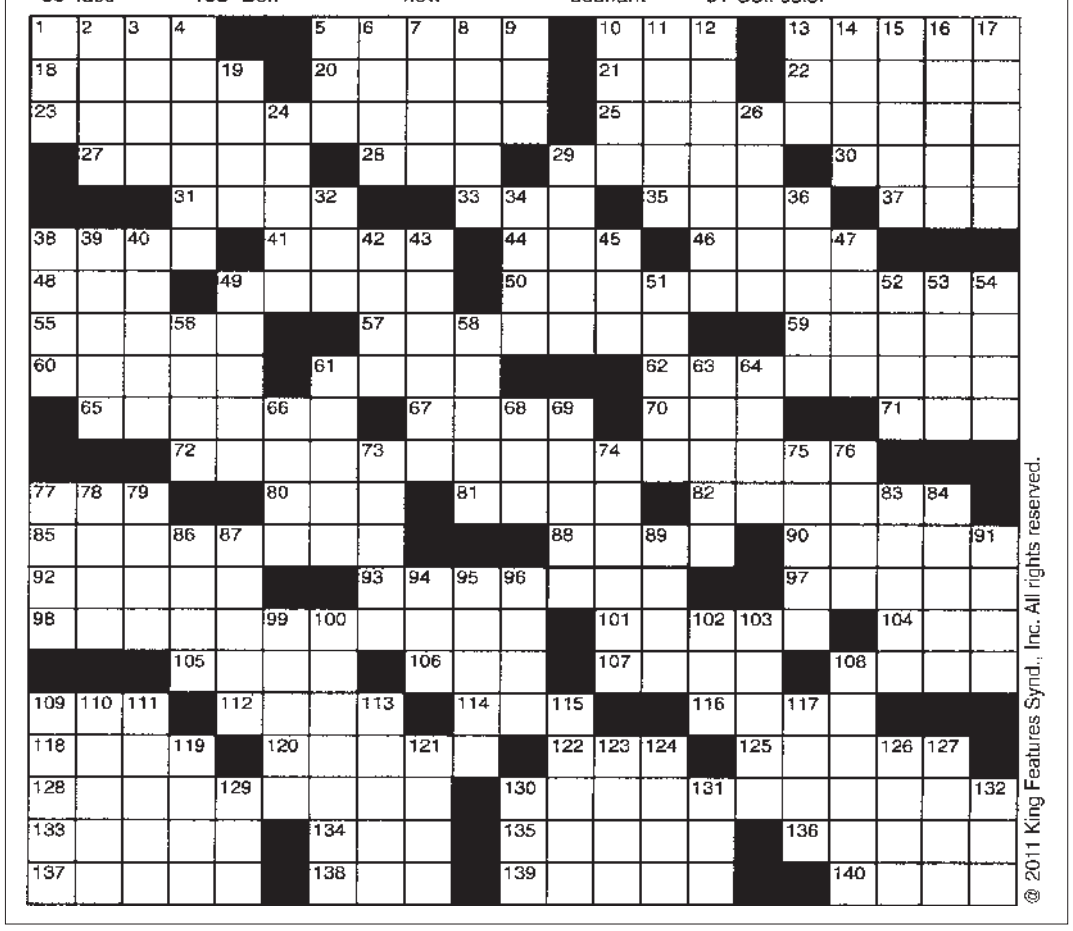
STROKES OF GENIUS

**ACROSS**

1 In addition
5 Throw out
10 Spoil
13 Deadly
18 Soprano Mitchell
20 Country home
21 — trip
22 Actress Eleniak
23 Start of a remark by Kirk Kirkpatrick
25 Of interest to Byrd
27 "The Woman —" ('84 film)
28 Football's Luckman
29 Beg
30 Can't stand
31 Like sale merchandise
33 Bath, e.g.
35 Sunflower support
37 Aye opponent
38 — year
41 Close
44 Baseball's Mel
46 Marge in the fridge
48 Every last bit
49 Singer McKee
50 Part 2 of remark
55 Taco topping
57 Makeup removers
59 Braga or Sanchez
60 That's no bull!
61 Petite pie
62 Wages
65 Menuhin's teacher
67 Rounded roof
70 Language suffix
71 Boy king
72 Part 3 of remark
77 Heifer or hen
80 Ipanema's locale
81 Warty one
82 Porthos' pal
85 Faraway place
88 Director Reitman
90 Detection device
92 Violinist Mischa
93 Arizona town
97 Northern hemisphere?
98 Part 4 of remark
101 '39 Wimbledon winner
104 Santa —, CA
105 Sojourn
106 "Ben- —" ('59 film)
107 Neighbor of Java
108 Rock's Stefani
109 Brit. fliers
112 Jazzman Zoot
114 Female elephant
116 Mythological meany
118 Pennsylvania port
120 Bite
122 Charles S. Dutton sitcom
125 Spanish dramatist
128 A Dead End Kid
130 End of remark
133 Subside
134 Jack of "Flower Drum Song"
135 Cosmetician Lauder
136 New Archangel, now
137 Made a bundle?
138 Big bang letters
139 Yarn
140 For fear that

**DOWN**

1 Urban transport
2 Utah city
3 Any time now
4 Swaddle
5 Little rocker?
6 Lively dances
7 Morlocks' prey
8 Oafs
9 Smidgen
10 It should be square
11 Bronte's "— Grey"
12 Type of muscle
13 — -de-lance
14 Shoe part
15 Big guy
16 Japanese dog
17 Cagney's partner
19 Leon of "Mister Ed"
24 Minnesota city
26 Writer Rogers St. Johns
29 Couturier Jean
32 Round Table title
34 Handshakers
36 The Brainy Bunch?
38 Glasgow girl
39 Gladden
40 Writer Drury
42 "Bhagavad- —"
43 Beehive or bouffant
45 Poetic monogram
47 Smell
49 Jean of "Upstairs, Downstairs"
51 Ruhr Valley city
52 "What's — for me?"
53 Place
54 Queue tip?
56 Takes in
58 Portly
61 Namely
63 City on the Nile
64 Annealing oven
66 Irish county
68 Hua's predecessor
69 Monitor message
73 Mormon leader
74 Infinitive splitter, often
75 Desert refuge
76 Downtown miasma
77 Dance maneuver
78 Boot —
79 Poet Lazarus
83 Dowry downside?
84 French river
86 Salutes the moon?
87 Components
89 — Minor
91 Colt color
94 Fireworks reaction
95 "Alceste" composer
96 Curly coif
99 Chan portrayer
100 She'll flip for you
102 Day- —
103 Tenor Beniamino
108 Little pet
109 Change for the better
110 Oranjestad's locale
111 Ultimate
113 Drawing room
115 Pulse place
117 "Friends" role
119 Ending for leather
121 Thicken
123 Nobelist Stern
124 "Dark Lady" singer
126 Sheep shed
127 Interrogates
129 Oxford omega
130 Craven or Unseld
131 "— Paula" ('63 song)
132 Tended a tot



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## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the first level of Girl Scouts?
2. TELEVISION: Who was best known in the role of Alice Kramden in "The Honeymooners"?
3. CHEMISTRY: What is the Latin name for iron?
4. ANATOMY: Where is the pituitary gland located?
5. COMICS: What is the dog's name in the comic "Dennis the Menace"?
6. AD SLOGANS: What product was advertised by the slogan "A little dab'll do ya!"?
7. GEOGRAPHY: What is the Canadian province known by the abbreviation NB?
8. FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: Who said, "Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does."?
9. BIBLE: From which book does the quote, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven," come?
10. MUSIC: Who wrote the song "Diamonds and Rust"?

**Answers**

1. Daisy
2. Audrey Meadows
3. Ferrum
4. Base of the brain
5. Ruff
6. Brylcreem
7. New Brunswick
8. William James
9. Ecclesiastes
10. Joan Baez

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**Saturday's Answers**

The Spats — by Jeff Pickering

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

*Saipan Tribune's* Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

*Saipan Tribune* also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

| ADS | (PRINT) | COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE) |
|---|---|---|
| • 3-Liner | $15 | $27 |
| • 5-Liner | $24 | $39 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | $24 | $42 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | $36 | $57 |

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

### CANCELLATION

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

"I want to meet Snow White!"
MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, GU 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
hope strength joy!
Saipan Tribune

www.saipantribune.com

### FOR RENT/LEASE

4 Bed room, 2 1/2 bath house Call 788-7109 after 5:00 p.m.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

Sheila is back.
Phone for appointment,
483-8818, 235-7839

### FOR SALE

Construction corporation with good records and a well known restaurant business for sale. For more information please call 483-1123.

WHATZIT Solution: Sleeping pill

### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

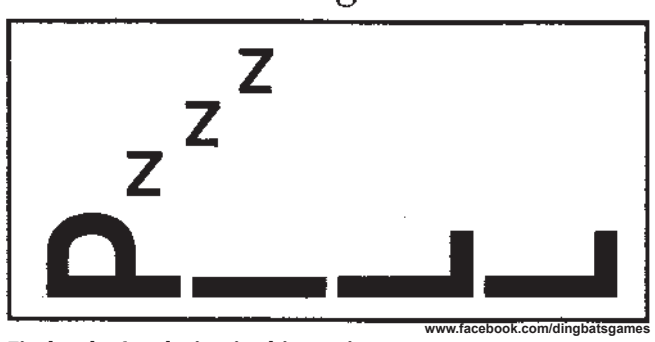
Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

## WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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**Find today's solution in this section**

# Morehead State upsets Louisville, 62-61

**DENVER** (AP)—On the verge of seeing his unheralded, 13th-seeded Morehead State program turn into something much more impressive, the coach could have called a play for his NBA-bound center or his guard who couldn't miss.

Instead, he decided to go with a dream.

Executing a play that came to his coach the night before, Morehead State's Demonte Harper dribbled patiently and watched the clock tick down. Then, he stepped up behind the 3-point line and swished the shot with 4.2 seconds left Thursday for a 62-61 victory over No. 4 Louisville and the first big upset of the NCAA tournament.

"The coach said, 'Hey, I dreamed about this last night, this exact situation,'" Harper said. "He said, 'I know exactly who I'm going to. I'm going to put it right in your hands, Demonte.' He said, 'At 6 seconds, I want you to attack and pull up and hit the shot.' I hit the shot. It feels unreal right now."

After Harper's go-ahead basket, the Cardinals (25-10) had a chance to win it, but Morehead State's best player, center Kenneth Faried, blocked Mike Marra's attempt from the corner.

And that's how little-known coach Donnie Tyndall, and not Louisville's Rick Pitino, found himself on the floor of the Pepsi Center celebrating. Morehead State of Kentucky—enrollment 9,000 at the base of the Appalachian Mountains— won its first main-draw game in the NCAA tournament since 1984 and will play No. 12 Richmond, a 69-66 upset winner over No. 5 Vanderbilt in a later Southwest region game.

"I think to be a first-round game against an in-state power, to be able to knock them off, I don't think it's ever been bigger than that in the history of our school," Tyndall said.

Chris Smith had 17 points for Louisville, which closed the year on its first two-game losing streak of the season. The Cardinals played the end of the game without their leading scorer, Preston Knowles, who needed to be helped off the court after spraining his left foot with 8:51 left.

"This is as tough a loss as I've had in coaching and I've been coaching a long time," Pitino said.

After Morehead State (25-9) called timeout for its last possession, trailing by one with 23.8 seconds left, Harper seemed an unlikely candidate to take the most important shot in the program's unspectacular history. He was 2 for 9 from the floor and hadn't hit any of his five 3-point attempts.

Meanwhile, Morehead State had the big fella, Faried, not to mention Terrance Hill, who had kept his team in the game by going 5 for 6 from 3-point range.

The Eagles, however, didn't do anything by the book in this one.

If they were going to win, it was supposed to be on the shoulders of Faried, the all-time rebounding leader in Division I. Faried pulled down 17 rebounds but had a terrible day from the field—4 for 17 for 12 points—and wasn't the biggest factor in this game.

He'll get another chance, though. He can thank Harper—whose only shot of the second half gave him a total of eight points—and Hill, who scored a career-high 23, including 12 during a 16-4 run that turned a seven-point deficit into a 57-52 lead with 5:24 left.

AP

Morehead State guard Demonte Harper (22) reacts beating Louisville, 62-61, in a Southwest regional second round NCAA tournament college basketball game, Thursday, March 17, 2011, in Denver.

"Words can't explain how proud I am of my teammates because everybody thinks, ``Morehead State and Kenneth Faried,'" Faried said. "But it's Morehead State, 'The Team.' It just speaks volumes about my teammates who just stepped up."

Trailing 57-52, Louisville answered with the next nine points and the upset chances looked all but over with 1:14 left. But the Eagles worked the ball to Faried and he converted two free throws after a foul to pull within 61-59. Then, Morehead State fouled Elisha Justice, who missed the front end of a 1-and-1 to close his team's 7-for-16 day from the free-throw line.

Faried got the rebound, and Tyndall set up the play that would make Morehead State a winner.

As game-winning plays go, this one was quite simple. No picks, no passes.

Harper took the inbound pass in the backcourt, wasted a few seconds, dribbled across the line and stood there dribbling for a few more seconds. Then he improvised—a little move to the left to create some space against Peyton Siva, then a spot-up jumper that dropped in clean.

Tyndall said the play came to him during an all-but-sleepless night on the eve of the game.

"I kept saying, 'What am I going to do here?'" he said. "I just said, 'Man or zone, down one or down two, we're going for the win.' Demonte struggled from the 3-point line. But he's better at creating his own shot off the dribble than Terrance is."

Faried punctuated the win with his block on Marra, proving yet again that the natural-born rebounder doesn't have to have the ball in his hands to win games.

## Richmond 69, Vanderbilt 66

Richmond added another upset to an impressive NCAA tournament resume that already had several.

And Vanderbilt exited early—again.

Kevin Anderson scored 16 of his 25 points in the second half, including a floater with 18.7 seconds remaining that helped seal 12th-seeded Richmond's 69-66 win against No. 5 seed Vanderbilt on Thursday in the Southwest regional.

## West Virginia 84, Clemson 76

Clemson's determination to overcome fatigue was no match for West Virginia's fresh legs. Playing its second game in just over 36 hours, the 12th-seeded Tigers built an early double-digit lead before falling 84-76 to the fifth-seeded Mountaineers in the second round of the NCAA tournament on Thursday

## Kentucky 59, Princetone 57

So what does John Calipari do? The Kentucky coach puts the ball in the hands of Brandon Knight, a freshman who had missed all seven shots he had attempted and, along with fellow rookies Terrence Jones and Doron Lamb, was in the throes of a terrible performance under the bright lights of March Madness.

Brushing it all aside, Knight drove the lane and lofted a finger roll high off the backboard that swished through with two seconds left to lift Kentucky past Princeton, 59-57. No. 4 seed UK now meets No. 5 seed West Virginia on Saturday at the St. Pete Times Forum.

## Butler 60, Old Dominion 58

Sometimes, a game-winning play is craftily designed and enacted with precision by each of the five players on the floor. And sometimes, the decisive basket is the result of an enormous amount of luck.

The play that Butler used to beat Old Dominion, 60-58, on Thursday fell squarely into the latter category. Afterward, the Bulldogs made no apologies— especially because their previous foray into the NCAA tournament ended when a last-second shot failed to go their way.

## Pittsburgh 74, UNC 51

Matt Dickey chased down a loose ball and fed J.P. Primm for a fast break, cutting UNC Asheville's deficit to six with 15:22 to play and prompting Pittsburgh coach Jamie Dixon to call one of those need-to-stop-the-momentum timeouts.

When it's No. 16 vs. No. 1, that's about as good as it usually gets.

The rest was familiar. The top seed went on a run, outscoring the bottom seed by 16 points to the finish the game. The Panthers kept the perfect 1-vs.-16 mark in the NCAA tournament firmly intact Thursday, pulling away to beat the Bulldogs, 74-51.

## Florida 79, UCSB 51

Chandler Parsons trudged through the back hallways of the arena, headphones on and eyes fixated on his phone. He was doing just fine until someone stopped him. "I'm going the wrong way?" Parsons asked. Not as far as the Gators are concerned.

Parsons flirted with his first triple-double, finishing with 10 points, seven rebounds and a career-high 10 assists, and Florida coasted to a 79-51 win.

## BYU 74, Wofford 66

Slowing down The Jimmer? It's possible. Stopping him altogether? Well, as the sign in the stands put it, "Fredette about it."

Wofford used about every combination of defense imaginable Thursday night, but still got "Jimmered" by the nation's leading scorer. Jimmer Fredette dropped in 32 points to lead third-seeded Brigham Young to a 74-66 victory over the Terriers in the NCAA tournament.

## Wisconsin 72, Belmont 58

Wisconsin brought its offense out of the deep freeze into the desert, and the thaw was remarkable. Jon Leuer scored 17 of his 22 points in the second half and the Badgers methodically dispatched Belmont, 72-58, on Thursday night.

## UCLA 78, Michigan St 76

UCLA kept clanking free throws, Michigan State kept draining 3-pointers. It turned a potential rout into a nailbiter. In the end, the Bruins escaped. Barely.

Tyler Honeycutt and Malcolm Lee scored 16 points apiece and seventh-seeded UCLA held off a late comeback by the 10th-seeded Spartans, 78-76, in the Southeast regional of the NCAA tournament.

## Kansas St 73, Utah St 68

Utah State wouldn't go away. The Wildcats managed to pull it out, of all places, from the free throw line. Jacob Pullen had a big game after an illness kept him out of practice the day before and fifth-seeded Kansas State held off Utah State, 73-68, Thursday by making its free throws down the stretch, sending the Aggies to their seventh straight opening loss in the NCAA tournament

## Gonzaga 86, St. John 71

That "11" on the bracket is only a number. The name that goes with it—"Gonzaga"—means a whole lot more. Marquise Carter scored a career-high 24 points, lifting Gonzaga to an 86-71 victory over sixth-seeded St. John's on Thursday night to cap a stellar day for the double-digit seeds at the Pepsi Center in the NCAA tournament.

## Temple 66, Penn St 64

A thriller between faraway in-state foes Temple and Penn State got the NCAA tournament action in Tucson off to a rousing start. The rest of the day was, well, predictable. Juan Fernandez sank an off-balance 18-footer with less than a second to play to give the Owls a wild 66-64 victory over Penn State and end coach Fran Dunphy's NCAA tournament record 11-game losing streak.

## San Diego St 68, Northern Colorado 50

San Diego State's players chased Devon Beitzel around screens, got hands in his face, challenged his shots. Nothing seemed to work, but just like they did against the real Jimmer, the Aztecs eventually figured out a way to shut down Little Jimmer.

Second-seeded San Diego State tightened its defense after a second-half scoring flurry by Beitzel and advanced in the NCAA tournament for the first time by beating Northern Colorado, 68-50, in the West regional Thursday.

## Cincinnati 78, Missouri 63

Cincinnati's return to the NCAA tournament after a six-year absence is off to a successful and memorable start. The No. 6 seed took the lead for good midway through the first half Thursday night and turned Missouri's "Fastest 40 Minutes in Basketball" into a slow-moving train in a 78-63 victory over the No. 11 seed.

## Connecticut 81, Bucknell 52

After carrying Connecticut to the Big East title, Kemba Walker decided to get his teammates involved in the Huskies' NCAA tournament opener against Bucknell. It was a move that earned him a place in the school record book . Walker had a career-high 12 assists, scored 18 points and grabbed eight rebounds to lead No. 3 seed Connecticut to an 81-52 victory Thursday night.

# Knicks hit team-record 20 treys, rout Grizzlies

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Toney Douglas tied a franchise record by making nine of the New York Knicks' franchise-record 20 3-pointers, scoring 29 points in a 120-99 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies on Thursday night that snapped a three-game losing streak.

Carmelo Anthony scored 28 points and Chauncey Billups added 18 for the Knicks, who were 20 of 36 (55.6 percent) from behind the arc and moved back ahead of Philadelphia into sole possession of sixth place in the Eastern Conference.

Wearing green uniforms for St. Patrick's Day, the Knicks looked much better than they did during their slide. Douglas' sneakers were the wrong shade of green—sort of like the Hulk—but everything else was perfect. His ninth 3-pointer, with 17 seconds left, gave the team a record total and allowed him to match Latrell Sprewell and John Starks on the individual game list.

Mike Conley scored 16 points for the Grizzlies, whose lead was sliced to one game over Utah for the final playoff spot in the West.

Amare Stoudemire scored 16 for the Knicks, who shot 52 percent overall and were 18 of 21 at the free-throw line.

New York had dropped three straight since Anthony's jumper with 0.5 seconds left in a 110-108 victory at Memphis on March 9, allowing an alarming 117.3 points per game during the skid, which included a home-and-home sweep by a sub.-500 Indiana team.

The defense was better, but the story was the record-breaking perimeter game.

The Knicks turned an eight-point halftime lead into a blowout by hitting seven 3-pointers in the third quarter. Billups hit two early in the period and scored 12 points, while Douglas closed the quarter with two in the final 34 seconds as New York build a 92-74 lead.

Their previous record of 19 3s also came against the Grizzlies on Nov. 12, 2008.

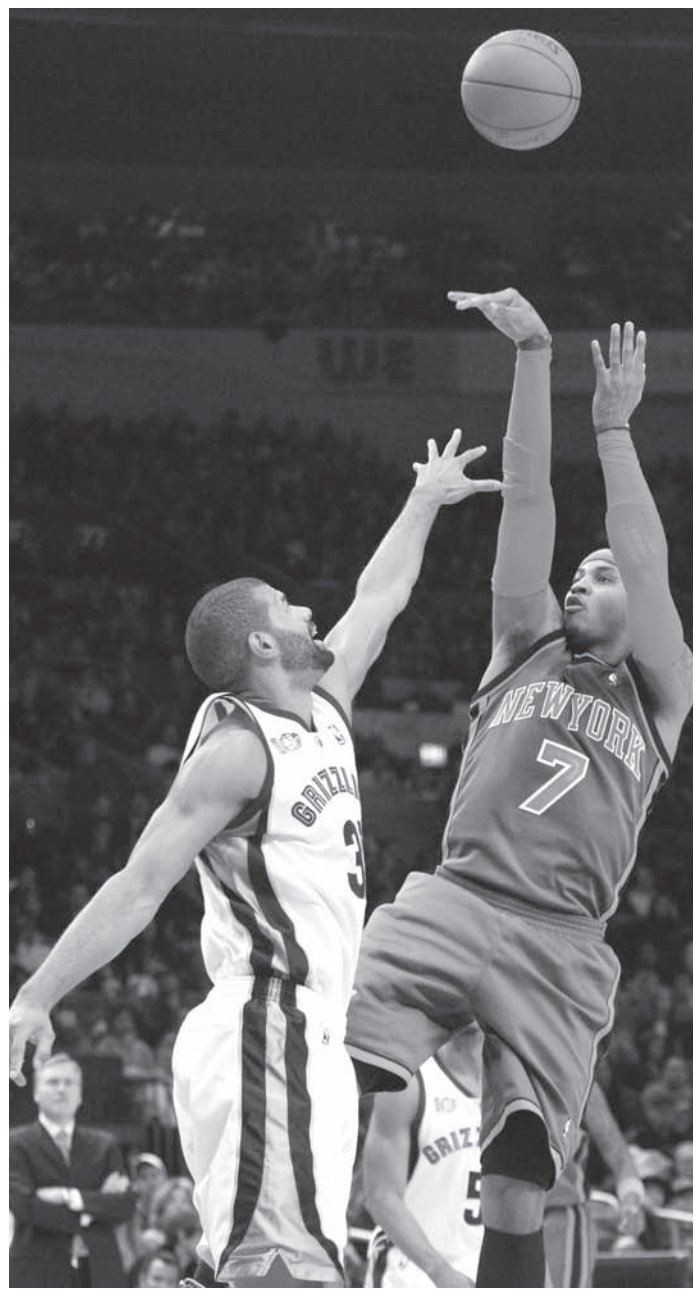
It was a sorely needed win for a Knicks team that has been inconsistent while Denver has rolled since their blockbuster trade involving Anthony last month. The Knicks are now only 7-6 since, even though the struggles ultimately have meant nothing to their playoff hopes.

The Knicks are still in sixth, just as they were when the deal went down, and haven't been lower than that since they were seventh through games of Dec. 2, according to STATS, LLC.

Yet that's done nothing to relax a fan base with bulked-up expectations since acquiring a second star to pair with Stoudemire. Coach Mike D'Antoni joked the fans that are panicking should "take some Prozac or something."

"Hang in there, we're hanging in there, we're pedaling as fast as we can pedal," he said before the game.

"The biggest thing, and I'll just keep repeating," he added, "is that we're not going to get caught up in the hysteria and we're going to be who we are, we're going to play as well as we can and get it together and hang in as a group and try to make the playoffs and then try to do as good as we can."



AP

New York Knicks' Carmelo Anthony (7) shoots over Memphis Grizzlies' Shane Battier (31) during the second half of an NBA basketball game Thursday, March 17, 2011, in New York.

No worries this time from the fans, who were too busy chanting Douglas' name in the final minute.

Neither team led by more than four points in the first quarter, which ended in a 29-all tie. Douglas, who makes the Knicks so much more dangerous when his outside shot is falling, was 5 for 6 from behind the arc for 15 points in the second period as New York took a 59-51 halftime lead.

### Bulls 84, Nets 73

At Newark, New Jersey, Derrick Rose scored 21 points as Chicago extended its longest winning streak in six years to eight games.

Luol Deng added 19 points for the Bulls (49-18), who took a half-game lead over idle Boston in the race for the best record in the Eastern Conference. Rookie Omer Asik added 11 points and a career-high 16 rebounds.

The Nets rallied in the fourth quarter but Kyle Korver had seven of his 12 in the final period, helping the Bulls hold on.

Brook Lopez scored 22 points for New Jersey, which had won five straight for its longest winning streak in the last three years. Kris Humphries added 13 points and 16 rebounds, and Deron Williams had 11 assists, but Rose controlled him on defense, limiting him to five points on 1-of-12 shooting.

### Trail Blazers 111, Cavaliers 70

At Portland, Oregon, LaMarcus Aldridge had 20 points and 11 rebounds before heading to the sideline late in the third quarter as Portland routed Cleveland.

Portland led by as many as 44 points while easily surpassing its largest margin of victory this season. Gerald Wallace added 17 points for the Blazers, who had 29 assists compared to Cleveland's total of six.

The Cavaliers, with the league's worst record at 13-54, made just 21 shots from the floor in shooting 35.6 percent. Ramon Sessions had 14 points.

## Goodell e-mails all active NFL players

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Commissioner Roger Goodell wrote NFL players Thursday, outlining the league's last proposal to the union and cautioning that "each passing day puts our game and our shared economics further at risk."

Goodell ended the letter, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, by telling players: "I hope you will encourage your union to return to the bargaining table and conclude a new collective bargaining agreement."

Talks between the teams' owners and the NFL Players Association broke off last Friday, the 16th day of federal mediation in Washington. The union dissolved that afternoon, allowing players to file a class-action antitrust suit in federal court. Hours later, owners locked out the players, creating the NFL's first work stoppage since 1987.

"I've told my guys to take the letter and set it on fire. We're not that stupid," said Seattle Seahawks guard Chester Pitts, whose reaction was relayed by NFLPA assistant executive director George Atallah.

Titans linebacker Will Witherspoon called it "very distasteful" for Goodell to send out such a letter.

"If we were in court, I would compare to a lawyer trying to lead a witness," Witherspoon texted the AP on Thursday night. "I duly object to the fact he has highlighted his highpoints but not given them any ground to stand on!"

Goodell wrote that the NFLPA "walked out of the federal mediator's offices ... and filed a lawsuit." He also said owners "are prepared to resume those negotiations at any time."

"We need to come together, and soon," Goodell wrote.

He told players he wants them to "understand the offer that we made," a proposal put forth during the final day of negotiations.

"We believe the offer presented a strong and fair basis for continuing negotiations, allowing the new league year and free agency to begin, and growing our game in the years to come," Goodell said.

His letter goes point-by-point through 10 categories Goodell said were included in the NFL's last proposal. Among them:

- Salary and benefits would be $141 million per club in 2011, and rise to $161 million by 2014;
- Free agency after four seasons;
- Less offseason work and fewer padded practices in the preseason and regular season;
- Keeping a 16-game regular season for at least the next two seasons and not changing to 18 games without the union's agreement;
- Guaranteeing up to $1 million of a second year of a player's contract if he is injured and can't return to play;
- A new rookie compensation system;
- A jointly appointed neutral arbitrator for all drug and steroid appeals.

# Casey takes early lead in Tampa

**PALM HARBOR, Fla.** (AP)—Paul Casey changed his schedule leading up the Masters, and it's starting to look like a good move.

Once the fog lifted, Casey played bogey-free on the tough Copperhead course at Innisbrook on Thursday for a 7-under 64 to take the lead among the early starters at the Transitions Championship.

"The state of my game is going in the right direction," Casey said.

Casey made back-to-back birdies late in his round to surge past Nick Watney, who is coming off the biggest win of his career last week in the World Golf Championship at Doral. Watney had seven birdies in 12 holes before missing a few greens toward the end of his round and settling for a 66.

John Senden would have joined Watney except for his second hole of the day.

The Australian opened with a birdie and was in position for another on the par-5 11th. But at the top of his swing with a 3-wood from the light rough, he noticed the ball move and couldn't keep from hitting it. Once he hit his third to the green, he mentioned the slight movement to his caddie and called a rules official. Senden called the one-shot penalty on himself and ended up with a 67.

"I felt like I needed to talk about it because it was bugging me, you know what I mean? And you have to do the right thing with this game of golf, right?" he said.

Also at 67 were Honda Classic winner Rory Sabbatini and Justin Leonard, who believes he is close to breaking out of a two-year slump.

The conditions could not have been much better—plenty of sunshine, minimal wind and true greens. The Copperhead course at Innisbrook is among the strongest on the Florida swing, and the tournament has been attracting strong fields.

The gallery was as large as it has been in years, most of them followed a featured group of Watney, Bubba Watson, and PGA champion Martin Kaymer, the No. 1 player in the world making his debut at Innisbrook.

"It's a fantastic golf course, one of the best I've played in America, to be honest," Kaymer said after a 68. "It's very difficult. You have to hit a lot of good tee shots."

Casey made it look easy at times.

He putted for birdie on all but three holes and took only 28 putts in a clean round, which he described as his best ball-striking round of the year. That would include the Volvo Champions in Bahrain, which he won earlier in the year.

Casey wasn't planning on being at Innisbrook. He won the Houston Open two years ago, but decided to take a few weeks off before the Masters this year.

"If you look at my history in terms of how I've played ... I've always struggled after victories," he said. "I don't know why—fatigue, whatever it is. But I've performed poorly. So we want to go back to being nice and fresh before the majors."

Watson had a 70 with a new look—dark sunglasses. He had to withdraw from Doral last week because of a bad sinus infection that caused his eyes to water so much he couldn't see. Watson blames it on pollen, and say he gets it every year he comes to Florida.

"I got into Doral this year, so it started a week early," he said.

He wore the sunglasses to help keep the pollen from getting in his eyes, although he took them off to hit shots. It was a different look for the big hitter with the pink shaft in his driver.

"I look good in anything," Watson said.

Nobody could see anything in the morning, with fog so thick that play was delayed more than an hour until the sun burned it off. It was unlikely everyone could finish the first round.

Watney showed no effects from the hangover of winning at Doral. He was so tired on Tuesday that he stopped after five holes of his practice round, but he came out firing when the tournament began.

"The ball just seemed to be going where I was looking, which is a really good feeling," he said. "I wasn't sure what to expect, but I started off great, and kind of ran out of steam there at the end."

# 4 teams lead in SEDA league

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Mixed Blood Shooters, Jonny's Bar & Grill's Ali'i Kamote's, sister team IT&E Kamote's, and Buddies' Bar & Grill's Lights Out are current frontrunners in their respective divisions in the Saipan Electronic Dart Association League.

Mixed Blood Shooters downed Oleai Beach Bar & Grill's Celebrity, 11-6, on the road last Monday to remain atop the A division standings. Mixed Blood's record 46-22 calculates to a 0.6765 winning percentage, placing them ahead of sister team Kanto Boyz (50-35) and Celebrity (47-38) in the nine-team division. Notably, Mixed Blood's Jeff "Master Vader" Barit scored a 121 High In last Monday and retained first place in the individual statistics with a weighted average of 64.86, while teammates Angelo Hernaez (61.80) and Romy Intendez (58.24) rounded out the top three.

Ali'i Kamote's brushed off Mixed Blood Shooters II, 12-3, at home last Tuesday in Tuesday B and is beginning to run away from the field with a dominating 63-12 record for an even .84 winning rate. Of the other seven teams, Buddies' Salbahe Brothers (51-24) and Oleai's Matua's (43-32) are the only other potential threats at the moment. Notably, Ali's Peejay Naval scored a 160 High In last Tuesday.

Despite falling to Team Sabalu, 7-8, in a road game at Charlie's Sports Bar last Thursday, IT&E Kamote's still holds a slim lead over VFW Post 3567's Assashunz (36-24) and Buddies' Akiramenei Buddy! (35-25) in Thursday B. IT&E has 38-22 record for a .6333 winning percentage. Eight teams make up the division.

Lights Out now has a six-game advantage atop the 10-team field B Flame Three after taking down Gaia Bar's Gaiana B last Thursday, 12-3, at home. Lights Out has a 40-20 slate for a 0.6667 winning rate thus far and is positioned ahead of sister team Wild Shooters (34-26) and Oleai Beach Bar & Grill's No Fear (32-28), while Gaiana B and Naked Fish Bar & Grill's Na'Gupu (33-27) are tied for fourth place with similar 31-29 records.

## ROUSING

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goal apiece for MP United.

Tan Holdings Football Club is also entered in the boys U15 competition, but drew a bye in the opening day and will play its first game of the season today against Shirley's at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. MP United and Matansa will collide in the other game, also at the Ada pitch, with the winner taking the early lead in the group.

In the girls U15, rivals Matansa and MP United engaged in a 3-3 draw in their opening game at the Hopwood Junior High School.

Patricia Mae Echavez, Tahlie Hideo, and Andrea Camacho logged one goal each for Matansa, while MP United drew one of its three goals from Gabrielle Race. Tan Holdings and Paire were both a no-show in the first game, forfeiting their opening match. Today, Paire will meet Matansa at Hopwood at 3pm, while Tan Holdings will take on MP United at 4:30pm.

In the boys U18 division, MP United and Matansa had winning debuts after prevailing against separate foes in similar scores, 4-2.

In the first game at the CPA pitch, MP United defeated Paire. Paul Yoon Jin Han had a hat-trick for MP United, while Hunter Thorpe scored the other goal for the team. Eric Atalig and Mason Fruit drilled one goal each for Paire.

MP United will play Matansa in its second game today at the Ada pitch at 1:30pm, while Paire will take on Independents in the first match at 12pm. Matansa defeated Independents in the league's opening week.

## TOUGH

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National Team and Rollers, Korea's Area 1 and Area 4 All-Stars, and Guam's Andersen AFB, Naval Hospital, and Team Justice. Proa/CNMI Nationals will debut against the Area 4 All-Stars, while Rollers will challenge Area 1 All-Stars.

The tournament has a round robin format with the Top 5 teams in each pool advancing in the double-elimination playoffs. The "March Madness" will run until March 26.

A few Hoops players are already in Guam for the seven-day tournament, while the rest of the team will leave Saipan today, along with the CNMI Nationals and Rollers. Four teams from Japan did not make it to the tournament due to the recent tragedy in the country.

The "March Madness" also has competition in the women's division with Korea having two teams (Area 1 and 2 All-Stars). Completing the field are Andersen AFB, the Guam National Team, and possibly Calvo's Elite.

"We would like to thank our main sponsor, Docomo Pacific, and also our other supporters, UBA, Subway, and Tan Siu Lin Foundation for making this trip possible," Lee said.

On Monday, the Hoops will have another back-to-back matches, as they meet Area 3 at 1:30pm and Osan AB three hours later. The Hoopaholics' third and last back-to-back games are scheduled for Tuesday, starting at 12pm when they battle Yokosuka and then at 9pm when they clash over the MVP Stars.

The CNMI Nationals will play Area 4 All-Stars in their first match tomorrow at 12:30pm and then face Naval Hospital in the second game at 7:30pm. Rollers will see action in the last game in the opening day at 9pm, seven hours after their debut match against Area 1.

## RECORD

From Page 28

zaro split their first two matches. The women's B doubles has two pools with So Young Lee and Heo In Souk and Arlyn and Roma Barlao nailing wins in Group 1 and Toshiko Oabata and Lee Chong Soo topping their foes in Group 2.

In the men's C doubles, Son Jae Ok and Kanata Omori and their respective partners went 2-0 in Group 1, while Eydie Uy and Noel Wong had a 3-0 start in Group 2. The women's C doubles is also divided into two pools with Jen Savellano and her partner going 2-0 in Group 1 and matching the feat of Cecille Obaldo and Hazel Dela Santa in Group 2. Also winning their opening game last week were Hwang Meong and Angela Park.

In the mixed A doubles, Guintu and Choi, Gargallo and Peraja, and Andrew Galvez and Ito broke into the win column early. The pair of Galvez and Ito swept all three sets of their first game, while Guintu and Choi and Gargallo and Peraja went 2-for-3.

The mixed B doubles drew the most participants with 23 teams divided into four pools. Espana and Merlie Tolentino currently lead Group 1 with a clean 3-0 record; Bandoja and Souk and Diola and Lee hold identical 1-0 slates in Groups 2 and 3, respectively; and Jojo and Jen Savellano and Santos and Caleon have similar 1-0 records in Group 4.

The mixed C doubles has three pools and games will only be played starting this weekend. A round-robin format is in effect for each division in the elimination. Then the Top 8 teams will advance to the quarterfinals, then the four remaining will move into the semis where only two finals seats are at stake.

## CLOSE

From Page 28

to scratch their heads, as they remain at the back of the pack with Braddahs (0-5) in the 15-team men's division.

### Salty's 11, Red-Eye 9

Visiting Salty's took an early 4-0 lead in the top of the first inning. It loaded the bases with one out, setting up a grand slam bash by Eric Cabrera.

Red-Eye managed to get a couple runs back in the bottom frame off errors and an RBI single by Lensy Ogarto.

Salty's went 1-2-3 to start the second and Red-Eye loaded the bases in the top of the second, but only managed one run off an RBI base rip by Clyde Sablan

After a scoreless third, Salty's jumped ahead, 10-3, in the top of the fourth off a the-run homer by Cabrera, followed by a solo shot by Daniel Repeki and a two-run smash by J.D. Dikito.

Red-Eye answered and pulled within a run, 9-10, in the bottom frame off a two-run blast by J.R. Brel, four hits, errors, and a fielder's choice. Tremayne Mangco and Sablan belted RBI singles in the inning.

Both teams came up empty in the fifth inning and Salty's added a run in the sixth off a solo homer by Dikito and went on to contain Red-Eye in its last two chances.

### Calikano Groupers 8, Familia 7

Calikano Groupers struck first in the bottom of the opening frame with a pair of runs off a sacrifice fly by Darren Pua and an RBI base knock by Joe Sablan.

Familia came up empty to start the second and the Groupers went ahead, 3-0, in the bottom frame off an error.

Then Familia managed a run off errors in the top of the third and forced Groupers to go 1-2-3 in the bottom frame.

Familia took a brief 4-3 lead in the top of the fourth off an error, an RBI triple by Frank Ermitanio, and an RBI single by Jonathan Sonoda, but Groupers retook the lead, 6-4, in the bottom frame off a string of costly errors.

Familia pulled with a run, 5-6, in the top of the fifth off an RBI double by Raynard Aranda and went ahead, 7-6, in the sixth after forcing another 1-2-3 outing by the Groupers in the bottom frame. Buddy Igitol hammered an RBI double and Ermitanio hit an RBI single.

In the end, Groupers held Familia scoreless in the top of the seventh and Ton Pangelinan jacked a two-run homer for the walk off win. Notably, Familia outhit the Groupers in the game, 13-9.

### Island Apparel X-clusive 11, Laolao Bay 7

Laolao Bay managed a run off an error in the top of the first inning, but Island Apparel X-clusive got it back thanks to a leadoff solo blast by J.J. Cabrera.

Laolao's Robin Oiph answered with a three-run shot over the fence in the second that brought Charlie Wabol and Dodet Feliciano around with him.

X-clusive got a run back in the bottom frame to trail and forced Laolao to leave the bases loaded to start the third. Then X-clusive shot ahead, 9-4, in the bottom frame off an RBI base knock by Angel Reyes, a two-RBI single by John Cepeda, an RBI base rip by Dennis Pangelinan, a two-RBI double by Sonny Sablan, and an RBI base hit by Anson Jones.

Laolao came up empty in the top of the fourth as a result of a crushing double play from centerfield and X-clusive added a run in the bottom off an error.

Then Laolao got caught in another double play to start the fifth, but still managed a pair of runs afterwards off RBI singles by Jimmy Brel and Tim Cruz.

Both teams came up with a run in the sixth before X-clusive took the field and squeezed the last three outs.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Boston | 48 | 18 | .727 | – |
| New York | 35 | 32 | .522 | 13 1/2 |
| Philadelphia | 35 | 33 | .515 | 14 |
| New Jersey | 22 | 44 | .333 | 26 |
| Toronto | 18 | 49 | .269 | 30 1/2 |

**Southeast Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Miami | 46 | 22 | .676 | – |
| x-Orlando | 43 | 26 | .623 | 3 1/2 |
| Atlanta | 39 | 29 | .574 | 7 |
| Charlotte | 28 | 39 | .418 | 17 1/2 |
| Washington | 16 | 50 | .242 | 29 |

**Central Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| y-Chicago | 49 | 18 | .731 | – |
| Indiana | 29 | 39 | .426 | 20 1/2 |
| Milwaukee | 26 | 41 | .388 | 23 |
| Detroit | 24 | 44 | .353 | 25 1/2 |
| Cleveland | 13 | 54 | .194 | 36 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-San Antonio | 54 | 13 | .806 | – |
| Dallas | 48 | 20 | .706 | 6 1/2 |
| New Orleans | 40 | 30 | .571 | 15 1/2 |
| Memphis | 37 | 32 | .536 | 18 |
| Houston | 35 | 34 | .507 | 20 |

**Northwest Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Oklahoma City | 44 | 23 | .657 | – |
| Denver | 41 | 27 | .603 | 3 1/2 |
| Portland | 39 | 29 | .574 | 5 1/2 |
| Utah | 36 | 33 | .522 | 9 |
| Minnesota | 17 | 52 | .246 | 28 |

**Pacific Division**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L.A. Lakers | 48 | 20 | .706 | – |
| Phoenix | 33 | 33 | .500 | 14 |
| Golden State | 30 | 38 | .441 | 18 |
| L.A. Clippers | 26 | 43 | .377 | 22 1/2 |
| Sacramento | 16 | 50 | .242 | 31 |

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

**Yesterday's Games**

Chicago 84, New Jersey 73
New York 120, Memphis 99
Portland 111, Cleveland 70

### TRANSITIONS CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

PALM Harbor, Florida (AP)–Scores Thursday from the $5.5-million Transitions Championship at the par-71 (36-35), 7,332-yard Innisbrook Resort and Golf Club, Copperhead Course

**PARTIAL FIRST ROUND**

Due to darkness three golfers unable to complete first round. None currently ranked in top ten.

| | |
|---|---|
| Paul Casey | 32-32–64 |
| Nick Watney | 35-31–66 |
| Garrett Willis | 32-34–66 |
| Martin Laird | 34-32–66 |
| Scott Stallings | 31-35–66 |
| Joe Durant | 34-33–67 |
| John Senden | 35-32–67 |
| Gary Woodland | 33-34–67 |
| Ryan Moore | 36-31–67 |
| Rory Sabbatini | 33-34–67 |
| Justin Leonard | 32-35–67 |
| Webb Simpson | 35-32–67 |
| Jim Furyk | 34-33–67 |
| Stuart Appleby | 36-31–67 |
| Brian Gay | 33-34–67 |
| Brandt Jobe | 35-33–68 |
| Kevin Sutherland | 36-32–68 |
| Charley Hoffman | 36-32–68 |
| Martin Kaymer | 34-34–68 |
| Stewart Cink | 34-34–68 |
| Tag Ridings | 35-33–68 |
| Blake Adams | 34-34–68 |
| Chad Collins | 32-36–68 |
| Marc Leishman | 34-34–68 |
| Marc Turnesa | 35-33–68 |
| Sergio Garcia | 33-35–68 |
| Matteo Manassero | 35-33–68 |
| Vijay Singh | 36-32–68 |
| Roland Thatcher | 35-33–68 |
| Jason Dufner | 33-35–68 |
| J.J. Henry | 34-35–69 |
| Matt Jones | 33-36–69 |
| Chris Couch | 35-34–69 |
| David Toms | 35-34–69 |
| Robert Garrigus | 36-33–69 |
| Jerry Kelly | 34-35–69 |
| Arjun Atwal | 34-35–69 |
| K.J. Choi | 35-34–69 |
| Will Claxton | 35-34–69 |
| Andres Romero | 36-33–69 |
| J.P. Hayes | 36-33–69 |
| Brendon de Jonge | 36-33–69 |
| Chad Campbell | 36-33–69 |
| Carl Pettersson | 37-32–69 |
| Peter Hanson | 36-33–69 |
| Chris Riley | 34-35–69 |
| Kevin Na | 37-32–69 |
| Jamie Lovemark | 35-34–69 |
| Charlie Wi | 35-35–70 |
| John Rollins | 37-33–70 |
| Jonathan Byrd | 35-35–70 |
| Geoff Ogilvy | 35-35–70 |
| Bubba Watson | 33-37–70 |
| Jason Day | 36-34–70 |
| Stephen Ames | 35-35–70 |
| Peter Uihlein | 37-33–70 |
| Shaun Micheel | 36-34–70 |
| Kent Jones | 36-34–70 |
| Brian Davis | 34-36–70 |
| Spencer Levin | 34-36–70 |
| Troy Matteson | 36-34–70 |
| Chez Reavie | 37-33–70 |
| Zach Johnson | 37-33–70 |
| Justin Rose | 34-36–70 |
| Mark Wilson | 36-34–70 |
| John Daly | 35-35–70 |
| Alex Prugh | 34-37–71 |
| Steve Flesch | 36-35–71 |
| George McNeill | 35-36–71 |
| Ryo Ishikawa | 35-36–71 |
| Cameron Beckman | 36-35–71 |
| Bill Lunde | 35-36–71 |
| Rocco Mediate | 34-37–71 |
| Nick O'Hern | 35-36–71 |
| Tommy Gainey | 37-34–71 |
| Bio Kim | 36-35–71 |
| Zack Miller | 39-32–71 |
| William McGirt | 37-34–71 |
| Chris DiMarco | 37-34–71 |
| Ricky Barnes | 37-34–71 |
| Charles Howell III | 35-36–71 |
| Jimmy Walker | 36-35–71 |
| Woody Austin | 35-36–71 |
| Dean Wilson | 34-37–71 |
| Fabian Gomez | 38-33–71 |
| Jason Kokrak | 36-35–71 |
| Kevin Stadler | 36-36–72 |
| D.J. Trahan | 35-37–72 |
| Paul Goydos | 37-35–72 |
| Johnson Wagner | 35-37–72 |
| Ryan Palmer | 36-36–72 |
| Cameron Tringale | 35-37–72 |
| Steven Bowditch | 37-35–72 |
| Jarrod Lyle | 37-35–72 |
| Brendan Steele | 37-35–72 |
| Michael Connell | 35-37–72 |
| Brandt Snedeker | 36-36–72 |
| Trevor Immelman | 35-37–72 |
| Retief Goosen | 36-36–72 |
| Bill Haas | 37-35–72 |
| Nathan Green | 37-35–72 |
| Tim Herron | 36-36–72 |
| Chris Stroud | 35-37–72 |
| Kyle Stanley | 36-36–72 |
| Rich Beem | 35-38–73 |
| Kris Blanks | 37-36–73 |
| Jeff Maggert | 38-35–73 |
| David Duval | 39-34–73 |
| Josh Teater | 39-34–73 |
| Billy Horschel | 37-36–73 |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Morehead State upsets Louisville, 62-61**

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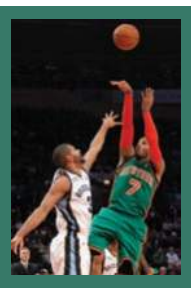
Saipan Tribune
Sports

**Knicks hit team-record 20 treys, rout Grizzlies**



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# Rousing spring debut for Matansa

Matansa Football Club players warm up before its game against Shirley's Football Club in the boys U15 division of the NMIFA spring youth league last Saturday at the CPA Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

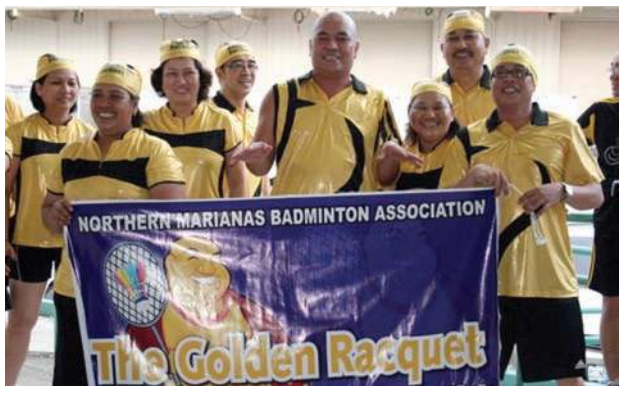
Matansa Football Club began its title bid in the boys U15 division of the 2011 NMIFA Youth Spring League with a bang, clobbering Shirley's Football Club, 7-0, last Saturday at the CPA Field.

Matansa reported for the game in its new uniform and buckled down to work early, scoring four goals in the first half en route to a demolition win over the newest club in the NMIFA family. Names of the players who scored for Matansa were not listed in the copy of games results obtained by *Saipan Tribune.*

In the other boys U15 game also played at CPA, MP United edged Paire, 5-3, with fall league Golden Boot awardee Jehn Joyner scoring three goals in their opening game this season. Jake Lee and Dakota Hall had one

See ROUSING on Page 27

# Record entry in badminton doubles tourney




CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Members of the Berks Blazers Badminton Club, left, and Golden Racquet pose for a group photo before the opening of the 2011 Tan Holdings Mixed/Doubles Badminton Competition last weekend at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Badminton Association's season-opening 2011 Tan Holdings Mixed/Doubles Badminton Competition lured a record 109 participants, as competition in nine divisions started last weekend at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.

In the men's A doubles, eight teams are vying for the champions with the pairs of Dick Guintu and Mario Diola, Saul Gargalo and Wowie Abuel, and Ferdie Arago and Gerry Hibi winning their debuts. In the women's A doubles, three teams out of eight squads also prevailed in their opening games. The list includes the tandems of Marlene Peraja and Lani Bartolome, Angie Ito and Gigi Zapanta, and Anna Rose Omori and Michelle Caleon.

The men's B doubles drew 18 teams divided into three groups. Gary Bandoja and Oh Imbog, Gargallo and John Revilla, and Edwin Montoya and Rodwealth Espana clinched their first win in Group 1. Group 2 winners were Edwin Maratas and Jorge Olanda and Noli Santos and Rommel Catalma, while Diola and Narlo Achas won two games in Group 3, while Abuel and Jojo La-

See RECORD on Page 27

# Tough schedule for Hoops in Guam's 'March Madness'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Hoopaholics will play six games for three straight days in the March Madness Pacific Regional Basketball Championships that will kick off tomorrow at the Coral Reef Fitness and Sports Complex in Andersen Air Force Base.

The Hoopaholics, composed of Dave and John Sablan, Gus Palacios, James Lee, Jacob Villagomez, James Villacrusis, Marlon Cabrera, Kelvin Fitial, Jawn Joyner, Carlos Deleon Guerrero, Ionis Rasa, Mel Manibusan, and Jerry Diaz, will duel Joint Region Marianas first at 2pm tomorrow and four hours later, the visitors will take on the Guam National team at 6pm. The Hoopaholics are in Men's Pool B with Korea's Osan AB and Area 3 All-Stars, Yokosuka NS of Japan, Joint Region Marianas, and MVP Stars of Guam.

Men's Pool B has the Proa/CNMI

See TOUGH on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Hoopaholics' Jawn Joyner is seen here going for a jump hook against Mobil during their semis game in the UBA caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last week. Joyner and the Hoops will be competing in the "March Madness" in Guam, starting tomorrow.

# Close wins in Chamolinian league

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Salty's, Calikano Groupers, and Island Apparel X-clusive notched closed wins in the Chamolinian Softball Association's 2nd Budweiser Slow-pitch Softball League on Wednesday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Salty's went through Red-Eye, 11-9, in the first game to nab its fifth win in seven games. Red-Eye's card dropped to 3-4. Groupers edged out Familia, 8-7, in the second pairing and improved its record to 3-4, while X-clusive's slate improved to 3-2 after downing Laolao Bay in the late night match, 11-7. Familia (1-6) and Laolao (1-5) continue

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